



UNIVERSITY of NORTH CAROLINA PEMBROKE

YOU CAN GET
THERE FROM
HERE

UNCP

**BRAVENATION
CARES**



2019-2020

2020-2021

2021-2022



ACTIVATE SWITCH
TO OPERATE

BEFORE ENTERING



WEAR 2 CARE



6 Feet

KEEP YOUR
DISTANCE!

IN GUIDELINES



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Finding Our Way



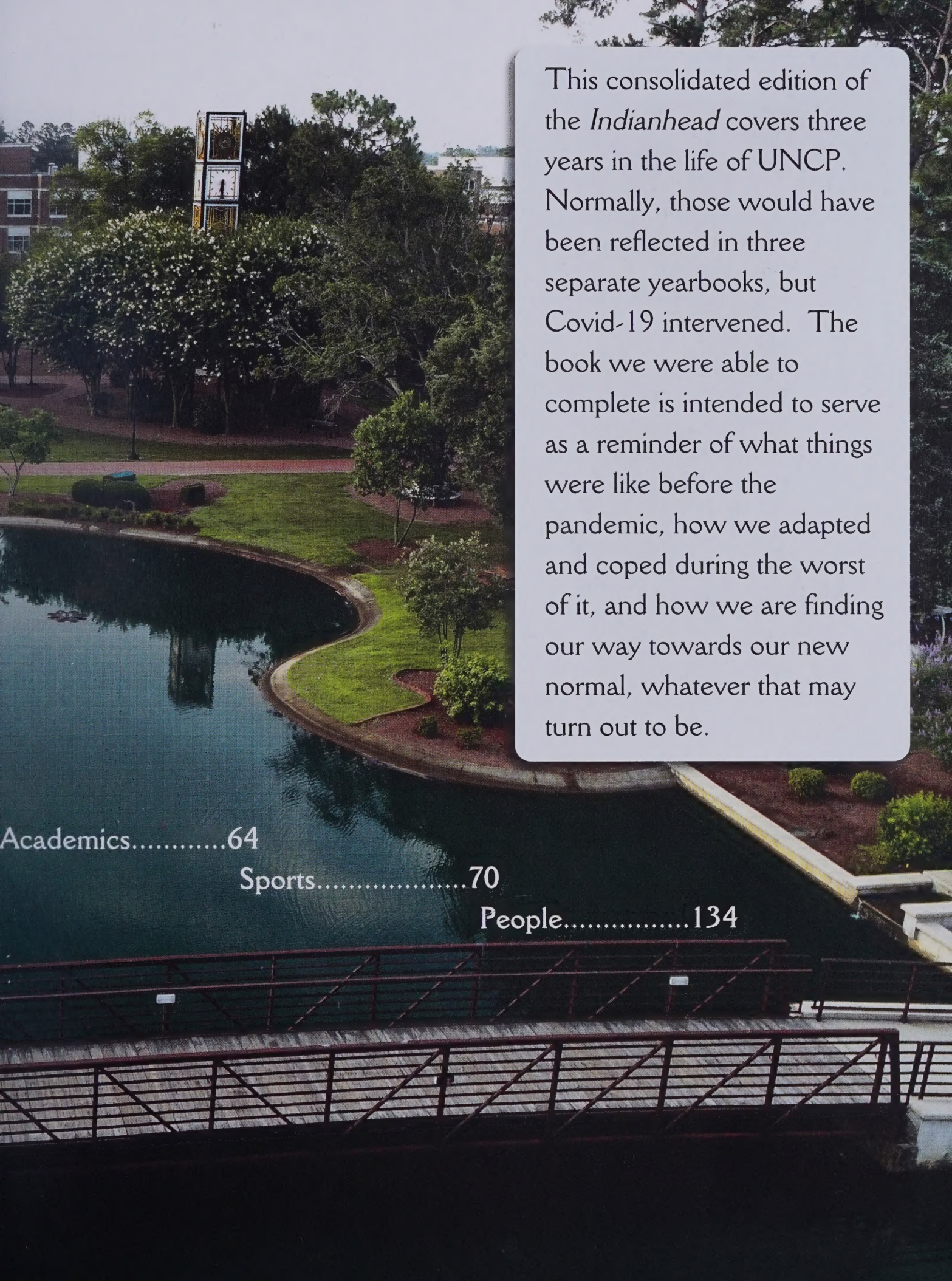
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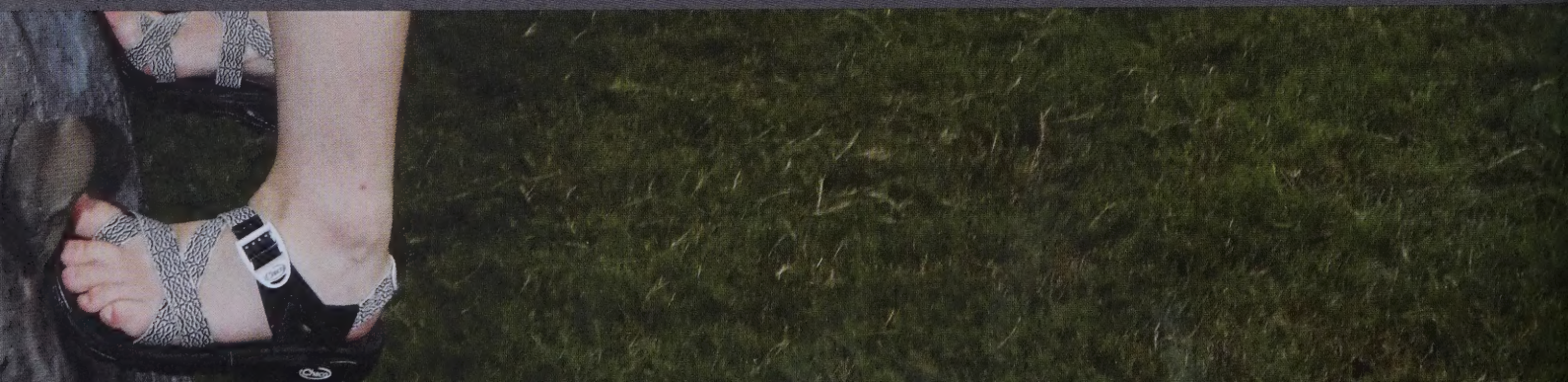
A photograph of a campus scene featuring a large pond in the foreground, a grassy area with trees in the middle ground, and a tall clock tower in the background. A bridge with a metal railing is visible in the lower foreground.

This consolidated edition of the *Indianhead* covers three years in the life of UNCP. Normally, those would have been reflected in three separate yearbooks, but Covid-19 intervened. The book we were able to complete is intended to serve as a reminder of what things were like before the pandemic, how we adapted and coped during the worst of it, and how we are finding our way towards our new normal, whatever that may turn out to be.

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Student life at UNCP was great for most of the **2019-20** academic year. Everyone was very involved on and off campus, eager to participate in as many events as possible or just congregate with one another in informal groups and have fun. Students went home for Spring Break 2020 thinking they would be back after one week off, but they ended up not returning for the remainder of the semester because of the global Covid-19 pandemic. Campus was locked down, and they had to complete all of their classes online.

When students returned to campus for the **2020-21** year, student life was completely changed. Students weren't really that involved on campus anymore because of all the necessary Covid restrictions. They were unable to congregate with one another unless they stayed six feet apart while wearing a face mask. Most events that took place in prior years didn't happen at all or were scaled back and moved online. The university did its best to keep students engaged, but some students felt like, except for classes, they were locked in their rooms for this academic year.

During the **2021-22** academic year, when Covid rates had leveled off and some restrictions were eased, student life on campus started to slowly open up. Students gathered in groups and attended events; they just wore their masks and social distanced themselves, although the numbers of participants at events weren't that large compared to prior years.

The college experience wasn't how it used to be, but that didn't stop some students from actively doing their best to enjoy their student life experience during a pandemic—safely.

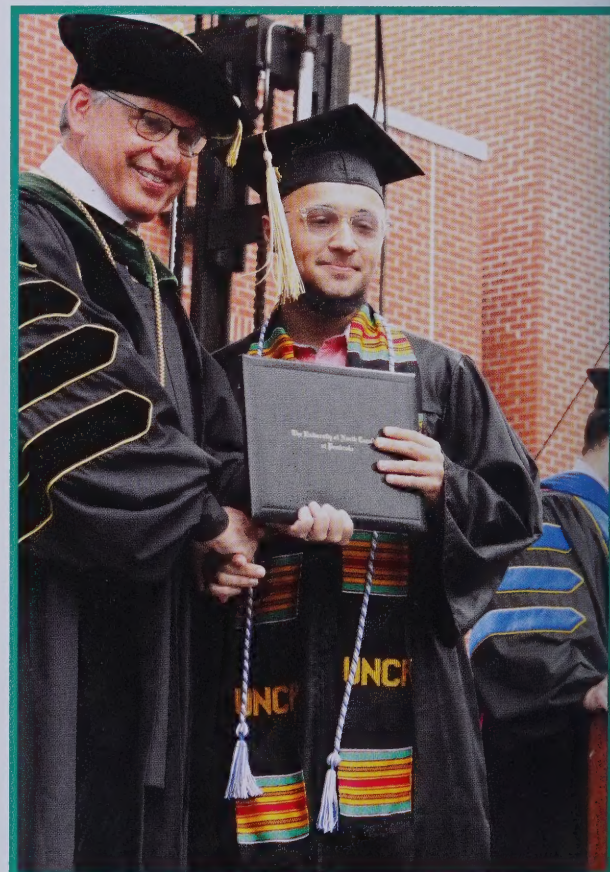
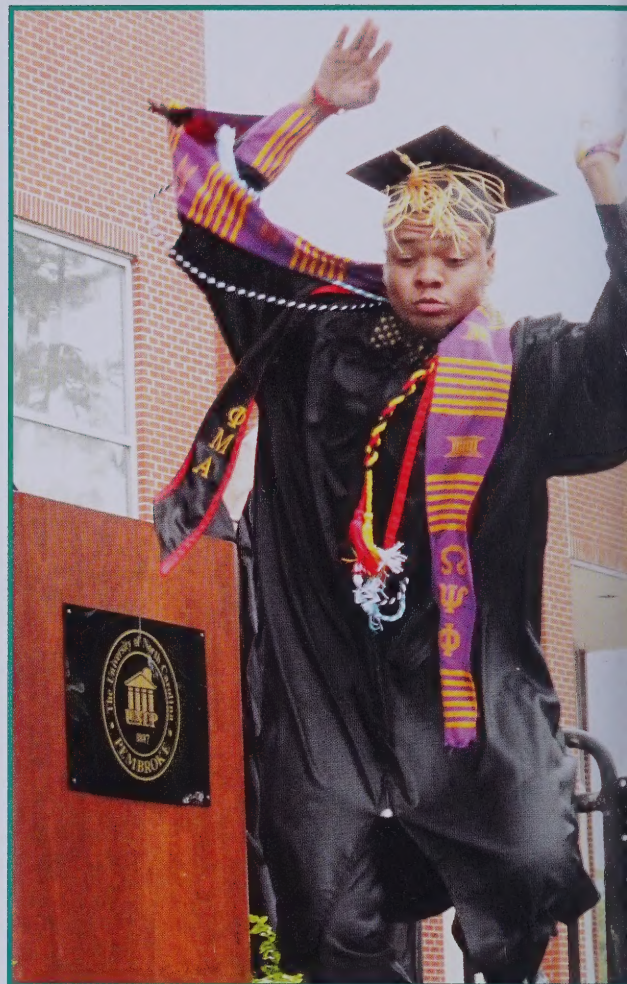
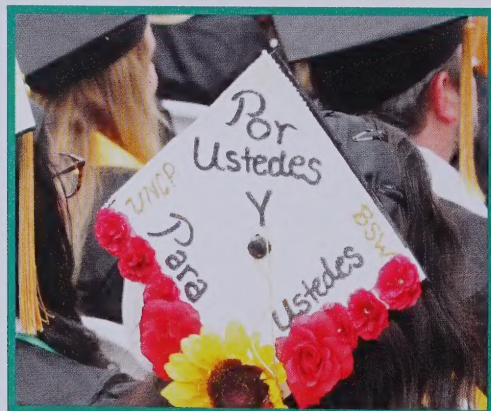
Student Life

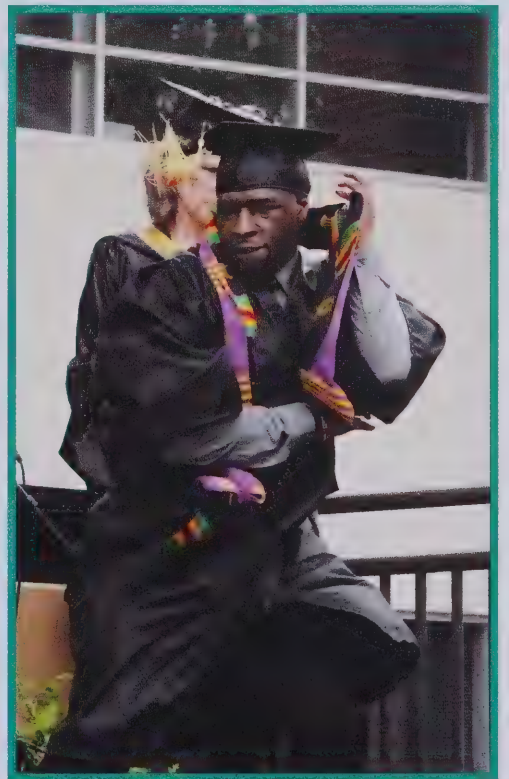
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Dance to Your Own Music

More than 725 graduate and undergraduate degrees were conferred during commencement exercises split between Friday evening, May 3, and Saturday morning May 4, 2019. More than 6,000 family and friends filled the Quad Saturday for the undergraduate ceremony. More than 1,000 attended a separate ceremony for the Graduate School, where 123 degrees were conferred at Givens Performing Arts Center on Friday. Undergraduate commencement exercises were celebrated under warm, muggy conditions and overcast skies, but the mood was upbeat. Chancellor Robin Cummings presided over the ceremony.

In his remarks, Chancellor Robin Gary Cummings told the graduates life is a series of decisions and choices. "The road forward beyond UNCP will be defined by you. The older we get, the more impactful those decisions. And it's what you decide to do next, that will further shape your destiny. Cummings left the graduates with a series of challenges. "Dance to your own music, create your own path, work hard and know that you determine your destiny. Don't listen to those who would limit you. And when that breeze changes, believe in yourself and in your dreams."







Poised for Success

The keynote speaker for both exercises was Jefferson Keel, president of the National Congress of American Indians and Lt. Gov. of the Chickasaw Nation of Oklahoma. During his address, he related stories about his journey to higher education, which began with overseas service in the U.S. Army. Keel told the graduates they were poised for success. "Because of what you've accomplished, you are prepared to make a positive mark in the world. . . . Live life like there's no tomorrow. Love your fellow man."

Among those who received degrees were Michael Blair and his wife, Diane, who wore matching caps and gowns, crossing the stage to the cheers of family and friends, including their three children ages, 11, 5 and 2. "This is exciting for both our families but, more importantly, for our kids. This shows them whatever goals you set out to achieve, you can do it, no matter the obstacles," said Michael, who earned magna cum laude honors. The Clayton couple enrolled at UNCP after a combined 17 years of active duty in the U.S. Army. Michael has been accepted into the MBA program at NC State. Savannah Melvin came to UNCP on a softball scholarship but decided to hang up her cleats to focus solely on academics. Looking back, she had no regrets. Melvin earned a biology degree, summa cum laude, and has been accepted to Methodist University's Physician Assistant Program. "My experience at UNCP has prepared me academically for PA school. The Honors College courses challenged me to be ready for the rigorous course load at Methodist. In addition, I have worked for the last year as a paramedic with Robeson County EMS which has prepared me to make clinical decisions," she said. Vincent Molson—with flowers in one hand and a small jewelry box hidden behind his back in the other—greeted his girlfriend, Diandra Ingram, after she crossed the stage. After they embraced, Molson dropped to one knee and proposed. Shocked, Ingram burst into tears.







Student Spotlight

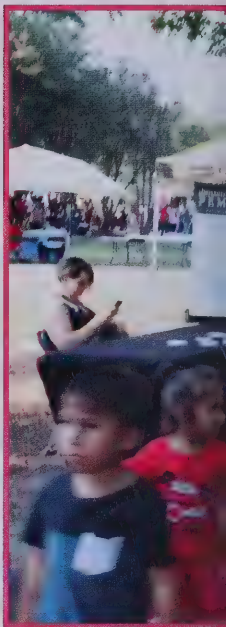
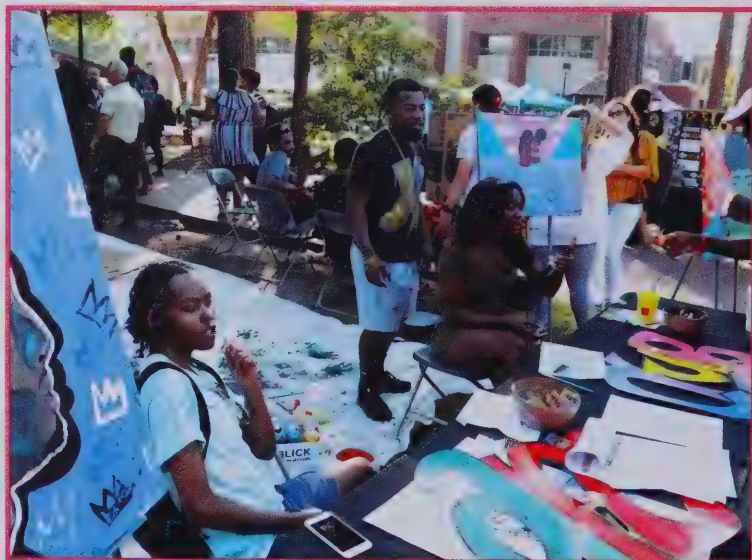
Before the start of classes for the Fall 2019 semester, students who were arriving and moving into their dorms and apartments were welcomed with a week of different activities to get involved in. Many returning students as well as staff members came out to help the new freshmen find their rooms and get them settled; even Chancellor Cummings lent a hand.

During Welcome Week, freshmen also participated in Brave Walk and attended the Convocation, where motivational speaker Jovian Zayne shared her personal story of beating the odds and becoming an international public speaker. Chancellor Cummings hosted an event where he spoke about who he is and what types of things he wants to happen on campus this semester. Many students also attended the Brave Nation Bash to relax, play games with friends, and participate in many other activities inside and outside the University Center.

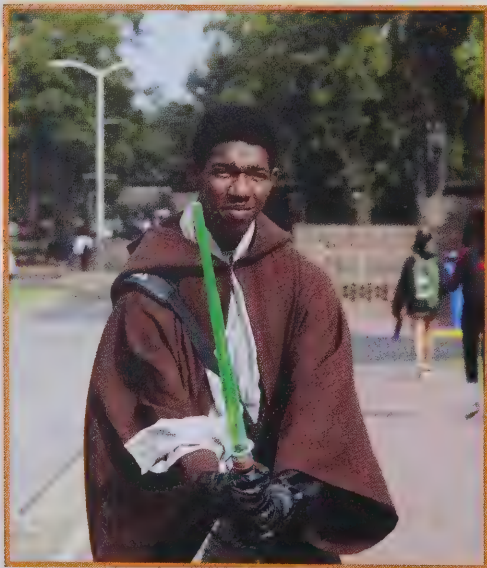


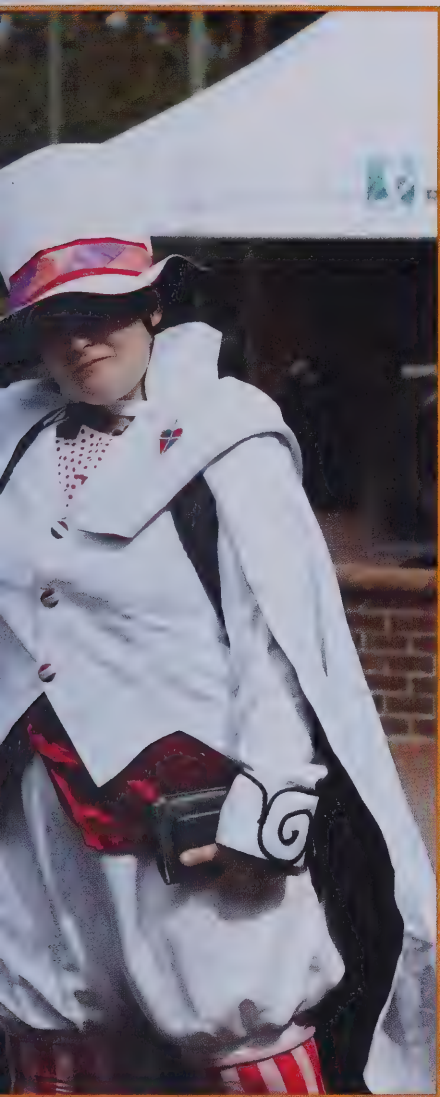
Coming Together

Pembroke Day brought UNCP students together with local Pembroke residents on Thursday, September 29, 2019. This annual event is a collaboration between the university, the Town of Pembroke, and the Pembroke Chamber of Commerce. Student clubs, campus organizations, academic departments, and various other university programs set up booths on the quad between Old Main and the Mary Livermore Library, where they were joined by local businesses, nonprofits, and health care agencies. All were offering food, crafts, promotional giveaways, and informational materials to the students and others in attendance. Entertainment included performances from the Spirit of the Carolinas Marching Band and the Pembroke Singers. It was a great way to spend an autumn afternoon having fun, meeting new people, and strengthening the bonds between the university and the town that has been its home for over 125 years.









Cosplay on Campus

UNCP was filled with Halloween spirit the week of October 28 through November 1, 2019. Some students came to class on October 31 in costumes; a few faculty and staff members got into the spirit, too. One of the many Halloween events on campus that week was the costume competition hosted by the Dining Hall, where whoever won the best costume would win up to 500 Dining Dollars to use at various dining locations on campus. Another competition was the Halloween door contest that Oak Residence Hall throws every year. Residents of Oak Hall would decorate their doors with spooky designs, and whichever resident impressed the judges the most won a \$25 dollar gift card to Walmart. One of the biggest annual Halloween traditions at UNCP is the Trunk or Treat. Hundreds of students, faculty, and student organizations lined up in the Jones Athletic Center parking lot to decorate their trunks and give out candy to students and community members.



PSU Throwback

Homecoming 2019 on October 7-12 was a great time for campus life. The theme was "PSU Throwback," paying homage to the university's historic transformation from the Croatan Normal School to Pembroke State University (PSU) and now The University of North Carolina at Pembroke. Current students wanted to bring back the old to the new with this year's theme. Alumni from all over came back to show their school spirit by participating in the big events.

All of the well-known traditions took place. Spirit Fest on October 9 was followed by the parade, bonfire, and semi-formal dance on October 10. Friday night, October 11, featured a performance by a Queen tribute band at the GPAC and a Step Show at the Jones Athletic Center. The crowning event for many was the Homecoming football game on October 12. After a fun time tailgating, fans of all ages filled Grace P. Johnson Stadium to cheer the team on to a thrilling victory over the Mars Hill Lions; the Braves won by scoring a touchdown with less than three minutes left to bring the crowd to its feet. Major Hart and Brea Brown were crowned Homecoming King and Queen during the halftime show, and everyone felt like a winner as this memorable Homecoming came to an end.





Celebrating Diversity

UNCP has long prided itself on its diversity. Hispanic Heritage Week kicked off in October 2019 with many days of celebrations for the Hispanic community. Students put pride and love into their walk around campus showing off their countries' flags and cultures. Earlier in the semester, nearly 400 students had attended the seventh annual Night of All Nations, where they were introduced to an array of ethnic food, dance, and culture. These were just two of many cultural events that celebrate the rich heritage of all nations, identities, and populations represented on our campus.





Get Serious!

Opportunities for having some serious fun on campus came in all varieties, from the many activities sponsored by campus Greek organizations to an event like the Pony Palooza on October 2. Full of laughs and giggles, it also spread awareness of the importance of a healthy and safe environment on campus. Students and staff enjoyed racing on the bouncy ponies, becoming all-time champions, and eating food!!!

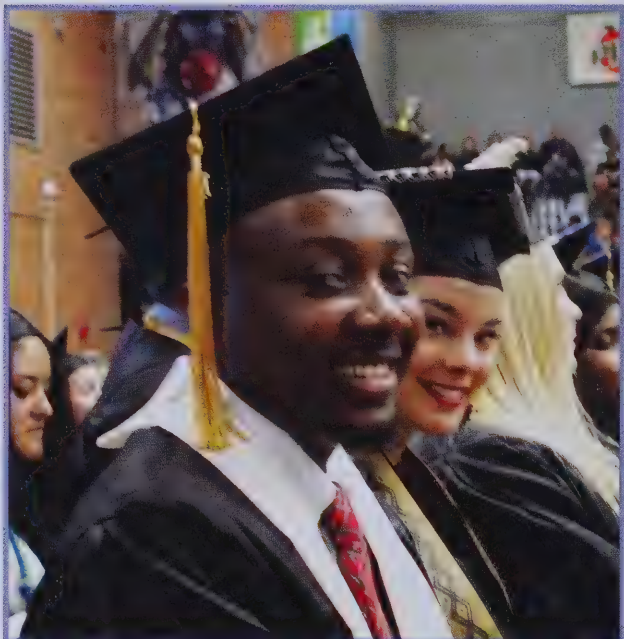
Somewhat more serious, but still involving food and fun, the Etiquette Dinner and Networking Event on October 22 gave students an opportunity to meet and interact with local professionals while practicing proper etiquette throughout the dinner. Students interested in careers in education got a chance to network, too, at the Teacher Education Fair on November 8.

Most serious of all, UNCP observed Veterans Day on November 11 by dedicating a Field of Honor in the quad. This ceremony, held each year, serves to thank our active duty and veteran students, alumni, family, friends, faculty, and staff.

As the end of the Fall 2019 semester approached, the university community gathered on the evening of December 3 for the Lighting of Old Main, where song and fellowship put everyone in the mood for the holidays to come.









Persistence Pays

The 2019 undergraduate Winter Commencement ceremony was held on Saturday, December 7, inside a jam-packed English E. Jones Center, where family and friends cheered their loved ones among the 668 graduates. In his keynote address, former UNCP trustee Dr. James “Jim” Jones shared a remarkable story of how, at five years old, he and his four brothers and sisters were abandoned on a farm in Pembroke. Jones went on to become the first American Indian to graduate from Wake Forest University and Bowman Gray School of Medicine in the 1950s. He later became the founding chair of the Family Medicine program at ECU’s Brody School of Medicine and president of the National Academy of Family Physicians. “Don’t be discouraged by those who would hold you back,” Jones said. “As you climb the ladder toward success, do not assume that the last step up the ladder you achieved entitles you to the next rung on the ladder.” He also encouraged the graduates, when considering their goals to reach beyond self-interest and to consider the larger world of possibilities. “Never make your goals solely about what benefits you,” he said.

In his closing remarks, Chancellor Robin Gary Cummings told the graduates not to let anyone stand in the way of their dreams. He shared the story of Pembroke native Sheila Cummings, who aspired to be an Air Force fighter pilot but was told by a recruiter that she would make a great nurse. Cummings began her educational career at UNCP before completing an aerospace engineering degree program at the University of Maryland and forming her own company, Cummings Aerospace. “She was told to be a nurse and that she couldn’t fly a jet for the Air Force. So, she turned that rejection into a company that designs jets, for the Air Force,” Chancellor Cummings said. Cummings left the graduates with a simple, yet powerful message: Hard work, works. “Rejection will come. You will face disappointment, but you’ve got to have fire in the belly. You must be willing to persistently pursue and work for what you want. Set your goal, find your passion, and persistently pursue it.”

Mark Perryman’s path to his degree was marked with unwavering determination. An Army veteran who fought in the Gulf War, Perryman has battled cognitive, physical, and psychological impairments from injuries he sustained in a horrific parachuting accident at Fort Bragg 30 years ago. At one point, he was forced to take off a semester. But he persisted and, on Saturday, he proudly turned his tassel along with 667 other graduates. “I’m overjoyed,” said Perryman, who earned a religion and philosophy degree. “I have a heart of compassion. I want to serve people who maybe going through the same thing I’ve been going through.”

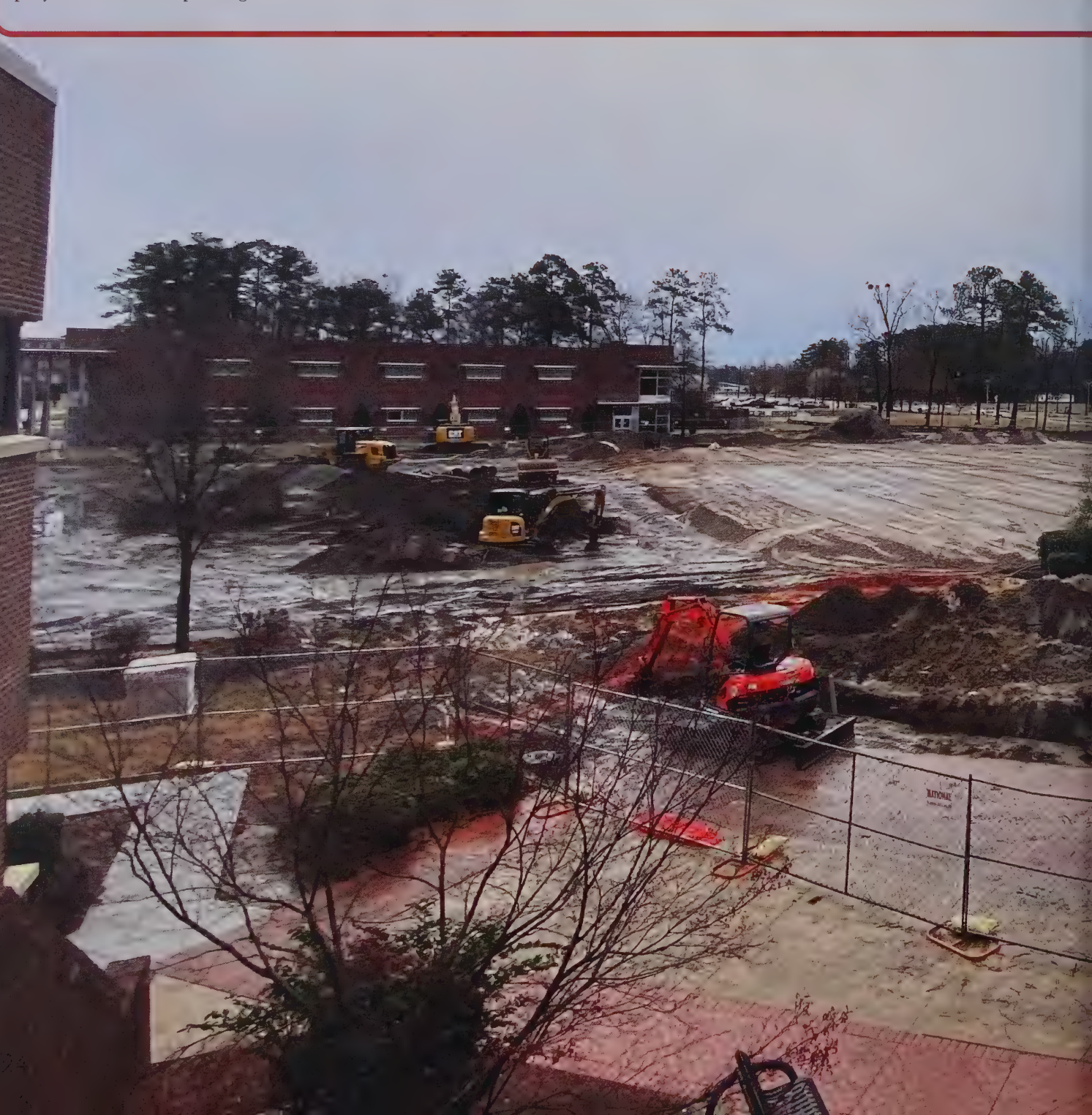
On the previous evening, December 6, Political Science Professor Kevin Freeman offered several keys to living a fulfilling life to the 179 graduates of The Graduate School gathered at Givens Performing Arts Center. One of the keys was: “Learning never ends. It’s a lifelong process.” Dr. Freeman also encouraged graduates to do something every day that makes them happy. “Every one of you is going to continue to do wonderful things that will positively impact the lives of countless people. Your journey is unique, based on your goals and motivations. Just don’t forget to stop and smell the roses,” he said. The graduate commencement was a family affair for Kenda Collins Bird and her niece, Kenissa Bird; each earned a master’s degree in school administration.



Work in Progress

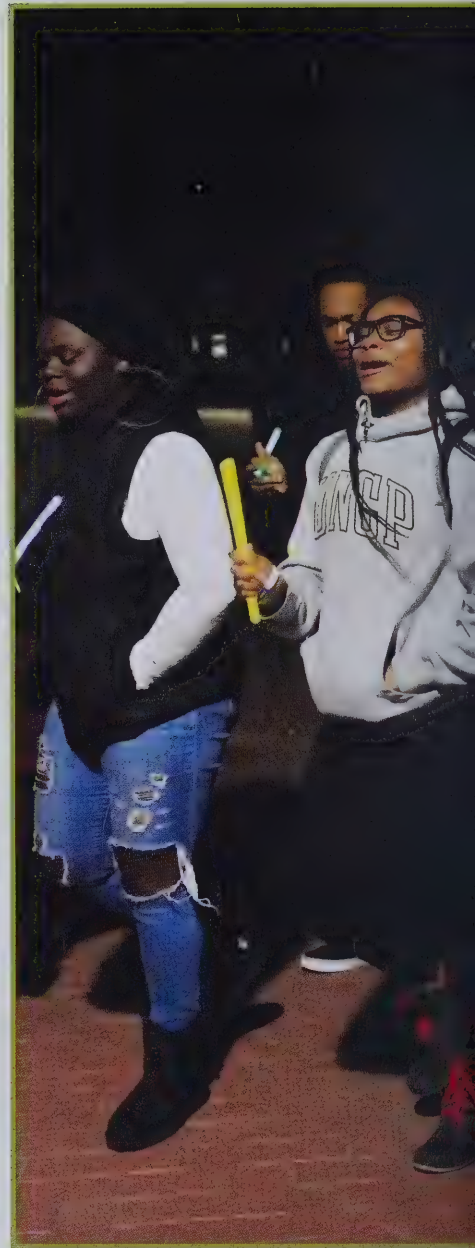


Chain link fencing, warning signs, and bulldozers proliferated on campus during the 2019-20 academic year as work began on several long-awaited construction projects. West Hall, one of UNCP's oldest dorms (inset on right), was gutted for a major renovation. The parking lot between Dial and Sampson (below) was dug up in January as construction began for the new School of Business. Students could deal with the unsightly fences and the construction noise, but the loss of precious parking spaces on a campus where they were already hard to find was a major inconvenience. Commuters, well as faculty and staff, spent many frustrating hours circling the campus and beyond to locate parking, and more time on the long walk back, often arriving late as a result. The construction represents UNCP's continuing growth, and the new buildings will be much appreciated. But some students felt that maybe the next building project should be a parking deck!





NATIONAL





Eventful

The first half of the Spring 2020 semester was full of events for students to participate in. January featured a candlelight vigil and other activities honoring the memory and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Later that week, Cynthia Marshall, the chief executive officer of the Dallas Mavericks, appeared at the GPAC as part of the Distinguished Speaker Series. Marshall, the first Black female CEO in the history of the NBA, enlightened and inspired the audience as she shared her experiences in many different roles, from her student days at UC Berkeley to her 36-year career as an AT&T executive before taking the helm at the Mavericks. Joining Marshall on stage and directing the conversation was sports broadcaster and 7-time Emmy winner Newy Scruggs, who was no stranger to UNCP since he graduated from Pembroke himself.

Taking the stage at the GPAC in February was the University Theatre production of Ira Levin's *Deathtrap*, a murder mystery that revolved around the writing of a play. Numerous plot twists kept the audience in suspense throughout, wondering exactly who was going to be killed, by whom, and why. The student performers and production crew did a great job of bringing this confusing sequence of events to life.

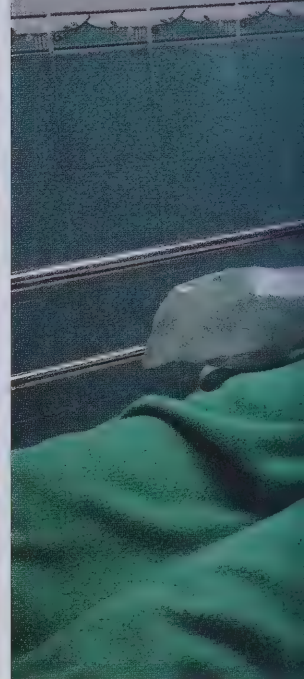
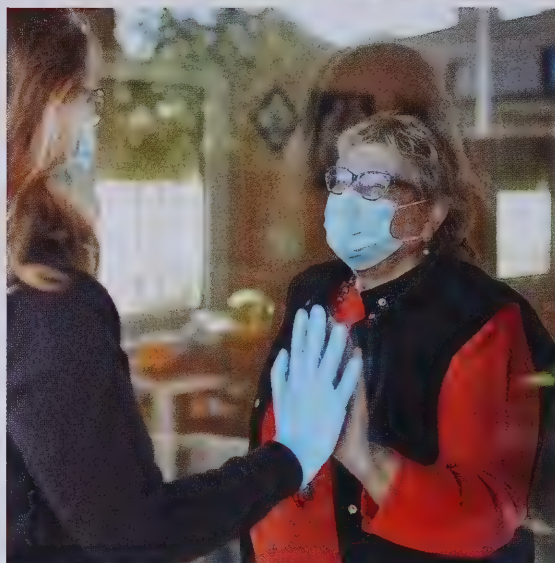
The grand finale of this half of the semester was a combined concert showcasing the musical talents of the university band and chorus on March 5, giving the audience melodies to remember as they prepared to leave campus for Spring Break. No one realized that they would not be returning to the GPAC, or anywhere else on campus, for a VERY LONG TIME!



SEASONS IN LIMBO



MANY SPORTS STOPPED MARCH 12 and by early July, it looked like there would be no college football when the Ivy League ruled out playing all fall sports. Other conferences soon followed suit. But then, more and more schools reversed course, beginning limited seasons and playing to empty or limited-capacity stadiums. Seasons continued to be plagued by players testing positive, forcing games to be rescheduled or canceled.



ALTHOUGH THE FIRST U.S. CASE of COVID-19 was diagnosed in January, the country didn't begin shutting down until March when the World Health Organization declared the virus a pandemic. Sports halted, schools and all nonessential businesses closed as states began crafting plans for stay-at-home orders to curb the spread. **ESPECIALLY SUSCEPTIBLE TO CORONAVIRUS**, the elderly and those with health issues stayed isolated for months. Friends and relatives were forced to visit them from outside their windows. COVID patients in hospitals died alone, unable to have contact with their loved ones. **STATES SET UP TESTING CENTERS** where people waited for hours as lines of cars stretched for miles. The respiratory disease spread through droplets in the air with symptoms including fever, cough and sore throat. After taking the nasal swab test, people sometimes waited for weeks for results and labs were overwhelmed.



UNCP Locks Down

In March 2020, just as classes were set to resume after Spring Break, the Covid-19 pandemic swept through the country, and everything shut down. After a week to re-set, all classes went online. Locked in at home, many struggled personally and financially as well as academically. Virtual communities helped some to deal with the stress and isolation. University administrators and staff worked tirelessly to provide support and plan for the uncertain months ahead. We all tried to be Brave, but it was tough.

These two pages, created by Herff Jones Yearbooks, provide a snapshot of the early months of the pandemic in the country as a whole.



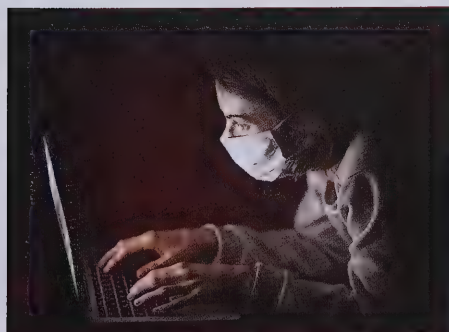
MEDICAL PERSONNEL became heroes, working long hours as their hospitals exceeded capacity. Large cities like New York resorted to temporary field hospitals to handle the overload. Though the numbers subsided in the summer, by the end of October, 230,000 had died in the U.S. At least 31 states set their one-day infection records in October, reporting a new case every 1.3 seconds during the last week of the month. **THROUGHOUT MAY** and early June, most states began a gradual, phased reopening after cases peaked in April. First came more essential services, then salons reopened. Restaurants reopened with limited capacity, and bars and gyms followed later. Most cities and states stressed social distancing, wearing masks and washing hands as preventatives, but local requirements varied widely.



RACE FOR A VACCINE

DUBBED OPERATION WARP SPEED, the race for a vaccine involved nearly 30 companies. By late summer, several potential vaccines had entered preliminary trials, but three major companies stopped their trials in early October due to adverse reactions in volunteers. Within the month, all were back on track. Although President Trump had talked of having a vaccine by November, medical experts predicted it would be at least early 2021 before one passed all the FDA trials, and it would take months before it became widely available to the general population.

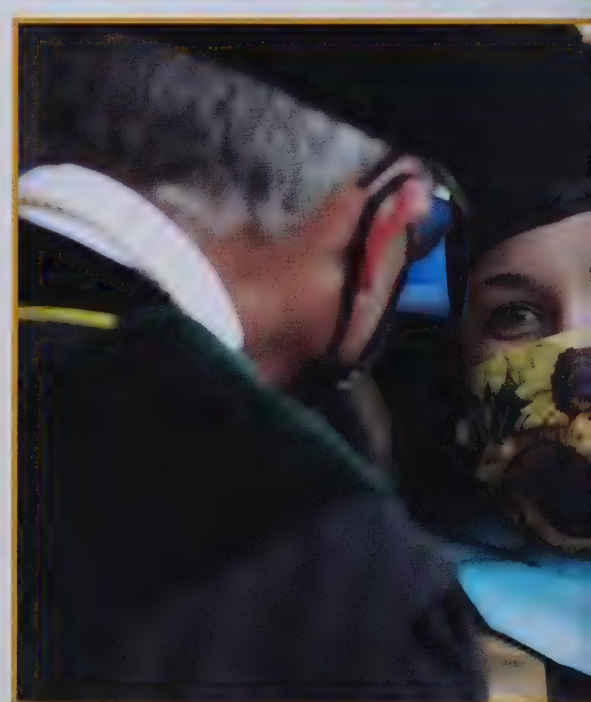
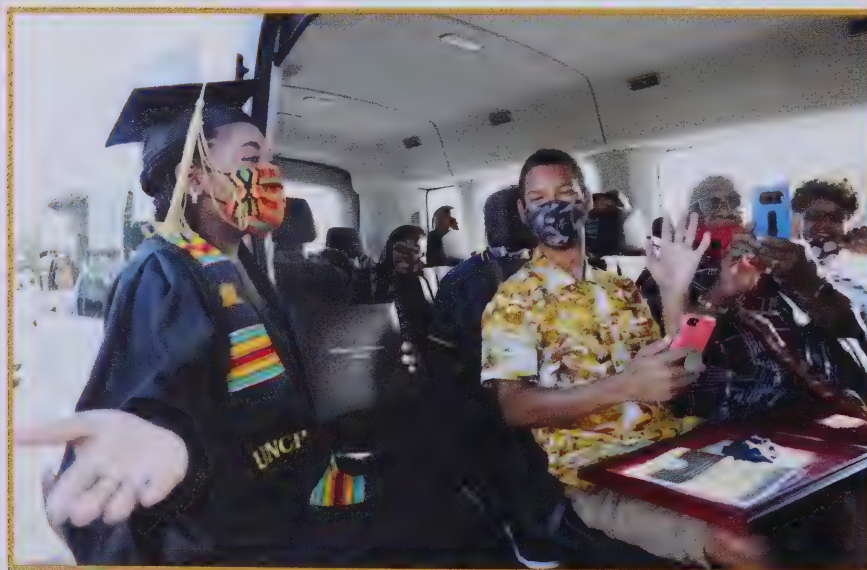
NOT SO NORMAL

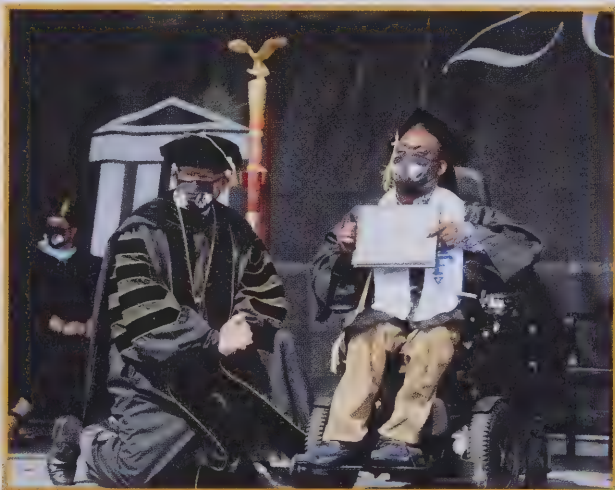
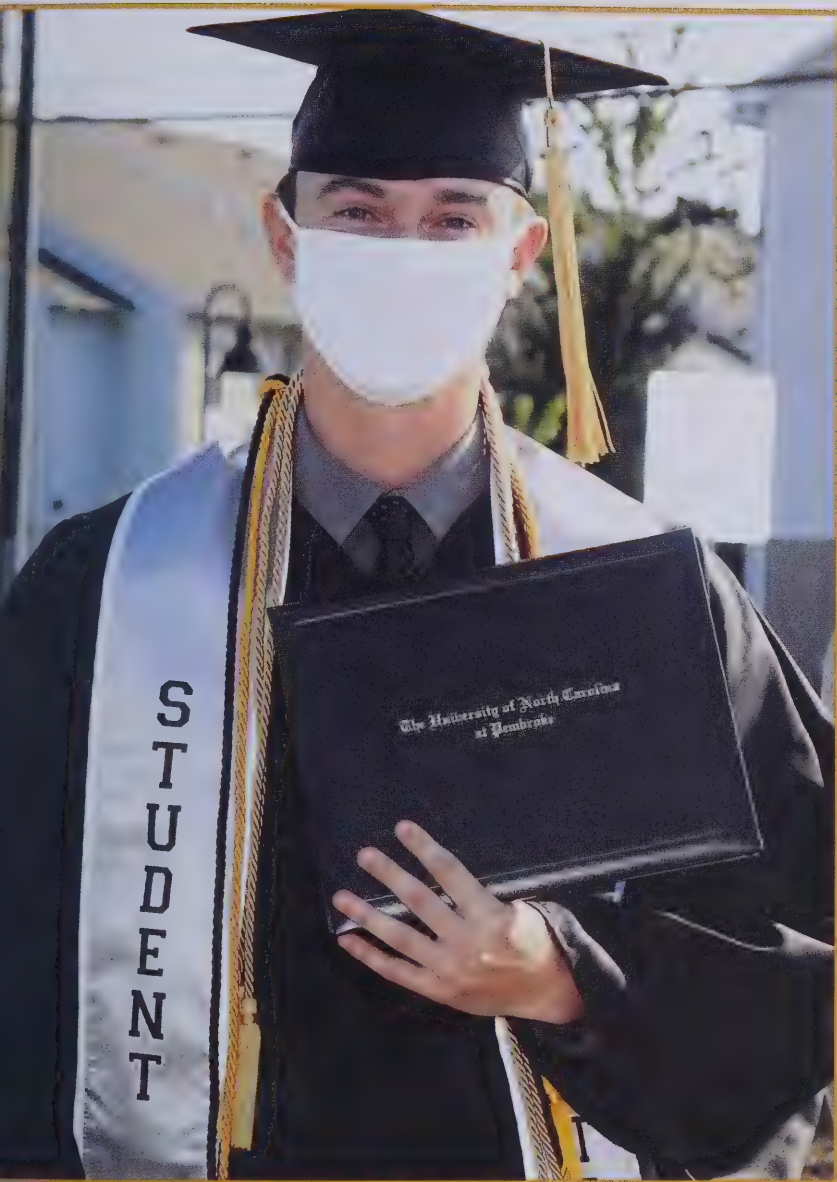


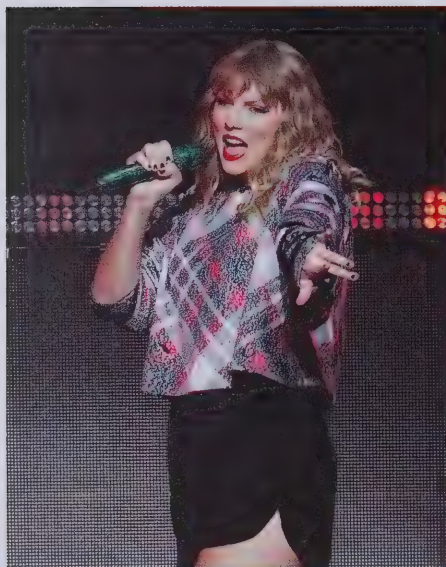
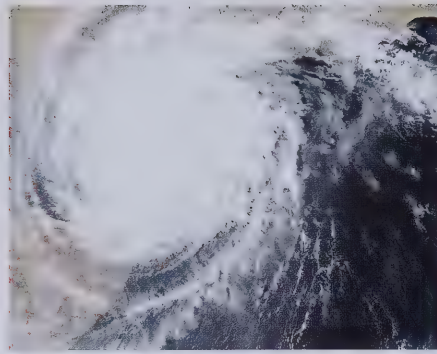
MOST SCHOOL YEARS ended in March 2020, and controversy swirled about whether schools should reopen in the fall. Plans varied from state to state, ranging from in-person instruction to virtual learning to a blend of both. Teachers tailored methods to accommodate, presenting to empty classrooms in many cases. Students who attended in person wore masks in socially distanced classrooms and endured quarantines as classmates tested positive for the virus.

Drive-Through Degrees

Spring 2020 Commencement, originally scheduled for May, was postponed and revised due to Covid-19 restrictions. While many college and university commencements went virtual in spring 2020, UNCP was one of the first and only universities in North Carolina to honor graduates with a modified in-person ceremony. On Saturday, August 8, UNCP awarded a record 957 graduate and undergraduate degrees. In a drive-through ceremony that began on Prospect Road at 8 a.m., Chancellor Robin Gary Cummings presented diplomas in person to all the graduates who chose to participate. Alumnus and Pembroke native Kelvin Sampson, head coach of the Houston Cougars men's basketball team, delivered the commencement address virtually. The traditional processional with a Native American flute and Lumbee Ambassadors, other speeches and greetings, and conferral of degrees also occurred in a virtual format and were combined with the livestreamed drive-through portion, making the entire ceremony available for graduates and families to celebrate their accomplishments together at any time following the completion of the in-person portion.



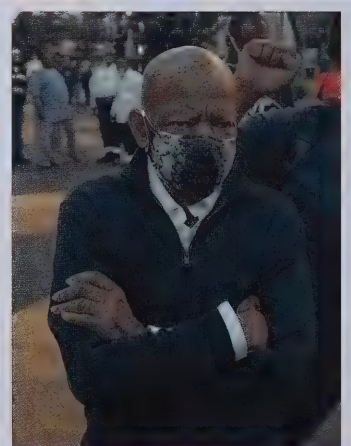
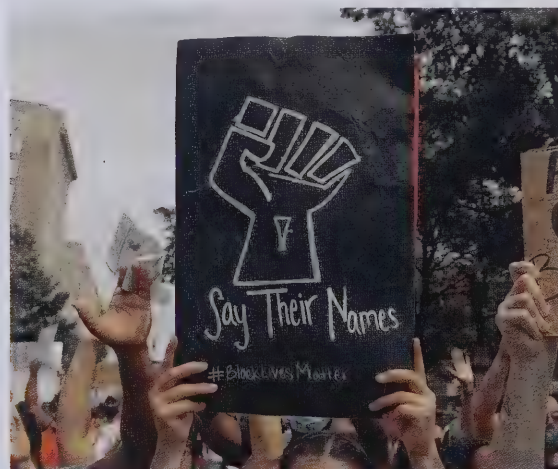




ENTERTAINING RELEASES

INTRODUCING A DIFFERENT VIBE, Taylor Swift dropped a surprise record "Folklore" in July, her eighth studio album. Driven by piano and guitar, the songs are more mellow than her previous work. Selling two million copies in the first week, it set a Guinness World Record for the biggest opening day for an album by a female artist on Spotify. **QUEEN BEY MADE NEWS** with the release of "Black is King" on July 31. Beyoncé's musical film and visual album got its inspiration from "The Lion King: The Gift," an album she recorded after voicing Nala in Disney's remake. "Black is King" focuses on a young African king who is cast out as a baby and returns to reclaim his throne as an adult.

THE DEATH OF GEORGE FLOYD, a 46-year-old Black man in Minneapolis, set off a summer of unrest and clashes between protesters and police. After a convenience store employee called 911 to say Floyd passed a counterfeit \$20 bill, police detained him with an officer kneeling on his neck for more than eight minutes as Floyd repeatedly said he couldn't breathe. Floyd died as a result. **"SAY THEIR NAMES"** became a rallying cry as protesters took to the streets beginning in late May. A series of Black deaths at the hands of police sparked demonstrations across the nation. **A BROADER MOVEMENT**, Black Lives Matter, and an examination of systematic racism in America emerged from the death of George Floyd. Demonstrators toppled statues of Confederate figures, NASCAR banned any display of the Confederate flag and Asheville (NC) City Council voted in support of community reparations for Black Asheville. Brands like Aunt Jemima and Uncle Ben's and sports teams such as the Washington Redskins took steps to change their names. **IN THE MIDST OF THE BLM MOVEMENT**, Georgia Representative John Lewis died of pancreatic cancer in mid-July. Lewis, the son of sharecroppers, was the last surviving speaker from the 1963 March on Washington where Martin Luther King, Jr. delivered his famous "I Have a Dream" speech. Before his funeral and burial in Atlanta, he was honored in Selma, Alabama, where he grew up.



NATURE ON A RAMPAGE

ALTHOUGH THE ATLANTIC HURRICANE SEASON didn't start until June 1, two named tropical storms developed in May, brushing the Carolina coasts. The first hurricane of the season, Hanna, hit Padre Island, Texas, July 25, followed by Isaias which hugged the coasts of Florida and Georgia before making landfall in North Carolina. **EXTREME HEAT ALONG THE WEST COAST** created a ripe environment for wildfires that spanned from Washington through California and into Arizona. Fires started in Washington in April, continuing through the summer. In Oregon, fires caused Portland to have the worst air quality on earth. California had its largest wildfire season in history, burning more than four million acres and destroying more than 9,000 structures.



THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE participated in a march across the Brooklyn Bridge, closing it down, on July 25. The march condemned the use of federal troops to curb protesters in Portland, Oregon. Demonstrations, mostly peaceful, in support of Black Lives Matter and justice for George Floyd and others continued throughout the summer in cities across the country.



ANYONE HUNGRY?

MOST SUMMER SPORTS were effectively ended by COVID-19. The French Open and Kentucky Derby both moved to September and baseball season was shortened. But Nathan's Famous hot dog eating contest, a Fourth of July tradition, endured. Joey Chestnut won for the 13th time, downing 75 hot dogs in 10 minutes. Miki Sudo captured the women's prize, eating 48.5.



ONE BIG BUG

WILDFIRES, RECORD HEAT, TORNADOES — then came the murder hornets, making their first appearance in the Pacific Northwest in the spring and spotted elsewhere through the summer. The Asian giant hornet, which can grow to two inches, kills up to 50 people in Japan each year and poses a threat to honeybees. Researchers hoped to eradicate them before they become established.

3 ... 2 ... 1 ... BLAST OFF



SPACEX, A PRIVATE SPACE COMPANY founded by Elon Musk, launched two NASA astronauts into space on its Falcon 9 rocket on May 30. This marked the first time NASA launched its own astronauts in nearly a decade. Since 2011, US astronauts had been sent into space on Russian rockets. While Falcon 9 returned to earth, Crew Dragon carried Bob Behnken and Doug Hurly to the International Space Station where they were scheduled to spend several months.





Keep Your Distance!

New freshmen who arrived on campus in Fall 2020 still made their Brave Walk, but masks and social distancing were required. These and other Covid-19 protocols, widely disseminated and reinforced by signage all over campus, put a real damper on student life. Returning students were glad to be back, unlike friends and family members whose schools were still online-only. But they missed events like Pembroke Day and Homecoming, and all the other hallmarks of campus culture that were canceled or converted to virtual events due to the pandemic. Socializing in small groups just wasn't the same, either. Everyone was relieved that UNCP was open again, but it definitely wasn't business as usual.



NOTE: Many students were voting for the first time in the **2020 election**, and that was another aspect of life that was far from normal during the pandemic. See **pages 36-37** for some of the issues involved in the election and its aftermath at the national level.

HISTORY MAKER

AFTER TAKING THE OATH of office at the inauguration ceremony on Jan. 20, 2021, Vice President Kamala Harris fist bumps President Joe Biden. Harris had run her own presidential campaign, sparring with Biden over school busing during a Democratic primary debate before being tapped as his running mate. Many noted that she often wore pearls (in solidarity with her sorority sisters) and Chucks (Converse Chuck Taylor) for casual comfort. Proud supporters donned the same on Inauguration Day.



CRITICAL VOTES

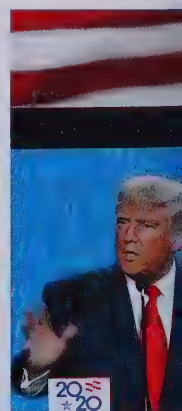
TWO U.S. SENATE SEATS in Georgia remained too close to call after the November election, forcing a special run-off election on Jan. 5. Democrats Jon Ossoff and Raphael Warnock challenged Republican incumbents David Perdue and Kelly Loeffler, respectively. The election took on even more importance because it would determine the balance of power in the Senate. Both Democrats won in close races.

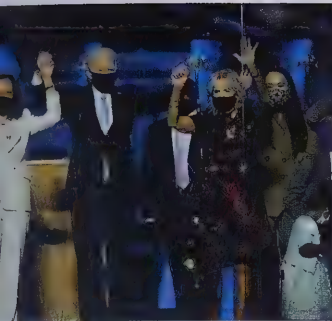
THE ELECTION OF DEMOCRATS

Raphael Warnock and Jon Ossoff to the U.S. Senate created an evenly divided chamber with each party having 50 senators. Tie votes will be broken by Vice President Kamala Harris, a Democrat, giving the Democrats control of both houses of Congress.

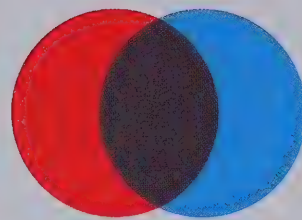


DURING THE ELECTION, QAnon, a conspiracy theory born in 2017, became a common thread with the ultra conservative. The theory posited that Donald Trump was waging a top-secret war against a cabal of criminals run by Hollywood elite and politicians, including Hillary Clinton. Followers of "Q," the movement's leader whose identity was a mystery, frequented President Trump's campaign rallies.





WHEN KAMALA HARRIS BECAME the 49th Vice President of the United States, she made history. Born of a Jamaican father and an Indian mother, she was the first woman, the first African American and the first Indian to hold the post. Her husband, attorney Douglas Emhoff, became second husband, another first. Harris started her career as a deputy district attorney in Oakland, CA and became district attorney in 2004. She was the first woman to be elected attorney general of California. She was elected to the U.S. Senate in 2016. Harris entered and later dropped out of the 2020 presidential race before being chosen by Joe Biden as his vice presidential running mate.



ELECTION
2020

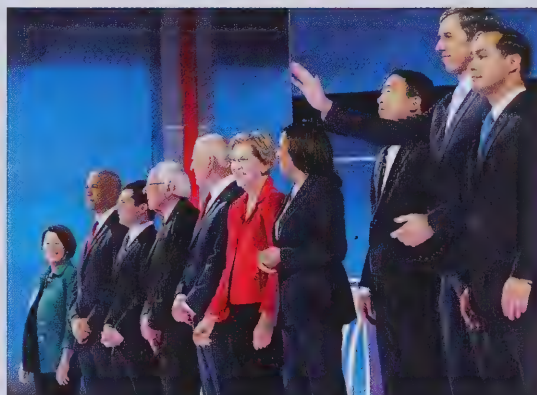


JOSEPH ROBINETTE BIDEN JR., with wife Jill holding the family Bible, took the oath of office as the 46th president at noon on Jan. 20. Although Election Day was Nov. 3, close numbers in several states delayed the declaration of Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris as winners until Nov. 7, when Pennsylvania pushed their Electoral College total over the 270 needed to win over incumbent Donald Trump.

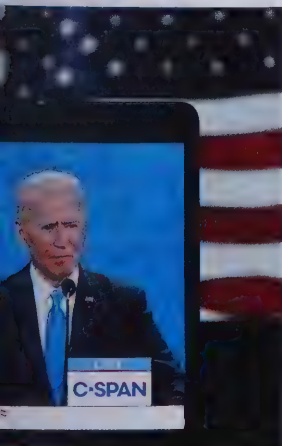
ON JAN. 6, as a joint session of Congress convened to formally count and certify electoral votes, President Trump held a rally of his supporters near the White House. Trump urged the crowd to keep fighting to overturn an election they saw as fraudulent. The crowd marched to and stormed the Capitol, breaking into the building and ransacking offices. The attack resulted in the deaths of one police officer and four rioters. **SUPPORTING THEIR CHOICE** from coast to coast, supporters cheered for President Trump at rallies leading up to the election — and afterwards. Large gatherings of passionate political backers were common, as were vocal support, banners and flags, MAGA caps and other Trump gear. **PRESIDENT TRUMP** and challenger Joe Biden were scheduled to participate in three debates. The second debate was cancelled due to Trump's COVID diagnosis and his refusal to hold the debate virtually. The vice presidential debate featuring Mike Pence and Kamala Harris took place in Salt Lake City on Oct. 7.



CANDIDATE OVERLOAD



AT ONE POINT during the race for president, more than 20 candidates vied for the top spot on the Democratic ticket. The Democratic National Committee held 11 primary debates. In order to participate, candidates had to have received a set number of pledged delegates. In August, Joe Biden accepted the nomination at a virtual convention. **KANYE WEST ANNOUNCED** his third-party candidacy for president on July 4. After missing ballot deadlines in 29 states and qualifying for only 12, he suspended his campaign the morning after the election. He received more than 60,000 votes and expressed interest in running again in 2024.

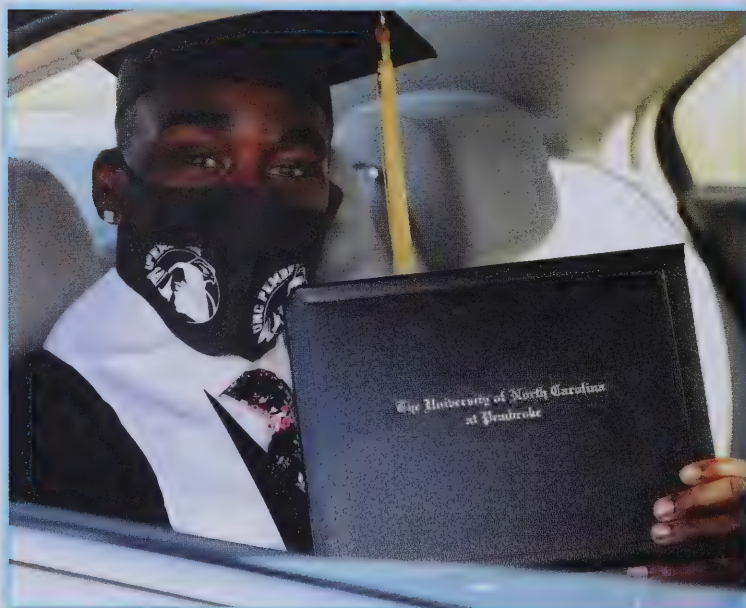


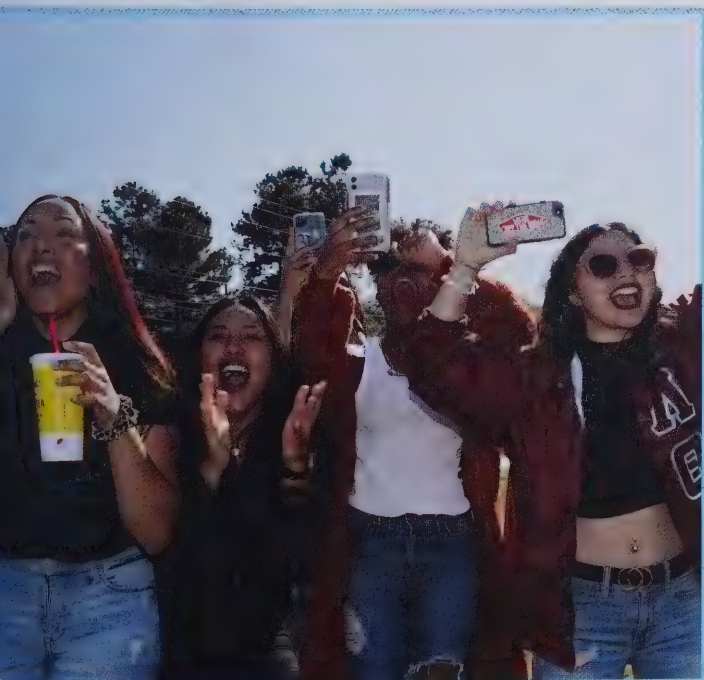
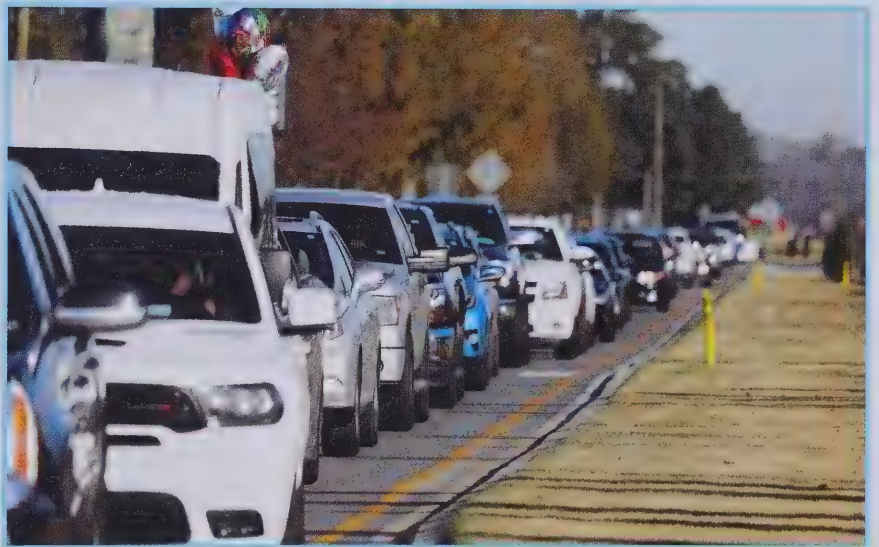
Change the World

Hundreds of graduates, family, and friends participated in Fall 2020 Commencement on November 21, as 686 degrees were awarded. A convoy of decorated vehicles, including a few stretch limos and buses, lined Prospect Road, parading toward a stage in the roundabout in front of GPAC. Graduates exited their cars and were greeted on stage by Chancellor Robin Gary Cummings and other platform guests. Proud parents, grandparents, siblings, and friends shouted, honked horns, displayed signs—some even rang cow bells—and snapped cherished photos in celebration of their graduates' accomplishment.

Former Wingate University President Jerry McGee, keynote speaker for the undergraduate ceremony, shared these words of wisdom: "Never underestimate your potential to make a significant contribution to society. Dream big dreams and go change the world." Dr. Michele Fazio, keynote speaker for The Graduate School ceremony, told the graduates not be afraid to speak up for what they believe in, especially during troubled times: "It would be far too easy to return to the way things used to be and forget what this year has brought to light, but doing so would ignore and erase lived experience. Your challenge . . . is to foster empathy, acting compassionately and intentionally to effect positive social change for yourself and in the lives of others." In his virtual remarks, Chancellor Cummings reminded graduates they have control of two things in life: "your attitude and your effort." Hurricanes and Covid-like disruptions—things in life you can't control—will come, but he urged graduates to stay resilient. "You've proven you can adapt to change and get through unanticipated life experiences. You've proven you have what it takes to stay focused, to reach your goals."

Changing the world is just what the graduates planned to do with the experiences they had at UNCP—experiences they say shaped who they are and will become. Ronald Crawford's wife and their children cheered from their car as he posed with his diploma. Although commencement lacked the usual pomp and circumstance, Crawford said he was grateful for the opportunity to hear his named called while crossing the stage: "I wouldn't have missed this for the world!"





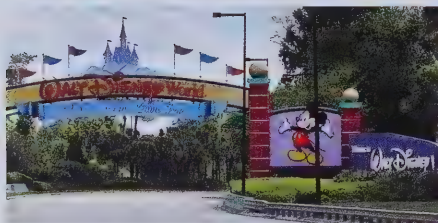
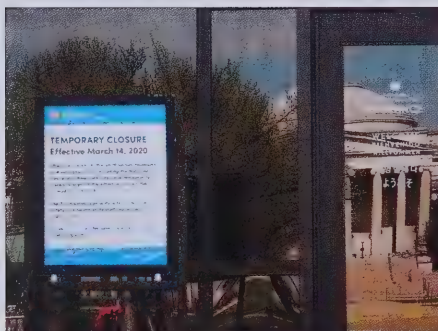


MARKING MILESTONES

IN LATE SEPTEMBER, the COVID-19 Memorial Project installed 20,000 small flags on the National Mall to commemorate those who had died from the pandemic. At that point, predictions of 240,000 future deaths seemed impossible. But on Feb. 22, the U.S. surpassed 500,000 deaths. President Biden and wife Jill, along with other officials, marked the grim milestone with a candle-lighting ceremony and a moment of silence. Biden also ordered flags at federal buildings flown at half-staff for five days.



A BLOW TO TOURISM

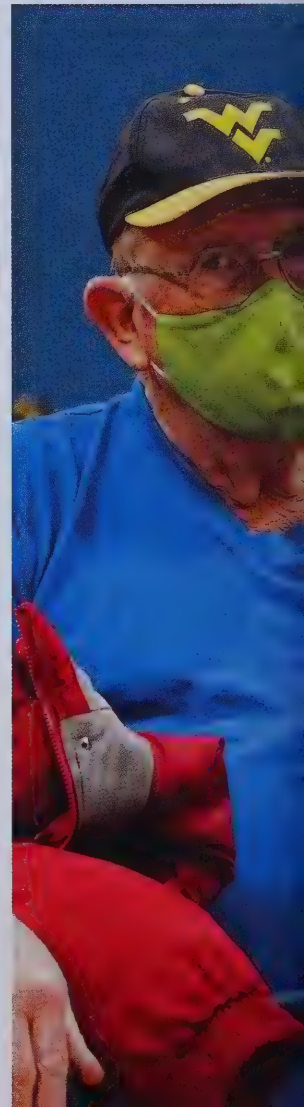


COVID-19 IMPACTED tourism in multiple ways. Broadway went dark in March 2020. In September, the closures were extended until 2021, then later pushed to May 30. The eight Smithsonian museums in Washington, D.C. also closed in March. The museums reopened in July and closed again just before Thanksgiving. Both Disney World in Florida and Disneyland in California shut down in March. Disney laid off 28,000 workers in September and another 32,000 in November. Although Disney World reopened to limited numbers in July, Disneyland remained closed a year later.

TO KEEP UP WITH the demand for vaccines, states created super sites, opening sports arenas and convention centers to handle the load. Communities created drive-thru vaccination sites like this one in Arizona. By early March, more than 16 percent of the U.S. population had received one dose and more than 8 percent had been fully vaccinated. Demand for the vaccine continued to outnumber available doses, creating frustration for those trying to schedule appointments.



AS EARLY AS APRIL 2020, the CDC recommended face masks to curb the spread of COVID-19. Each state issued its own requirements, and as many as 35 states mandated masks at some point. After peaking in January 2021, the pandemic began to ebb with the introduction of vaccines. Masks were still required in 30 states at the end of February. **THE FDA GRANTED** emergency use authorization (EUA) for the Pfizer vaccine on Dec. 11. Just three days later, the first U.S. vaccine was administered. One week later, Moderna received EUA, and their first vaccine given Dec. 22. Both early vaccines required two doses several weeks apart for highest efficacy. Health care and frontline workers, and people older than 75 received vaccine priority. A third vaccine, by Johnson & Johnson, which required only one dose and less extreme storage temperatures, was approved Feb. 27.





BRINGING A LITTLE LEVITY to the time of COVID, the citizens of New Orleans created "Yardi Gras" as a way to maintain the spirit of Mardi Gras. Parades and more were cancelled, so many families decorated their homes, some with the help of professional float artists who were temporarily out of work because of the pandemic. According to the mayor — because it's a religious holiday — "Mardi Gras was not cancelled, just different."

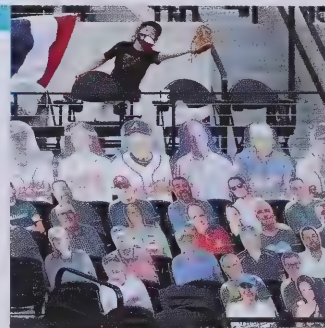


HOLIDAYS AT A DISTANCE

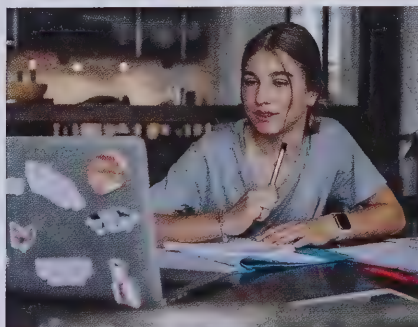
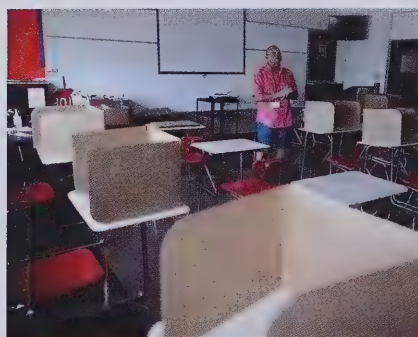
EXPERTS WARNED against gatherings during the holidays to avoid a spike in COVID cases. Shopping mall Santas greeted children from behind face shields and plexiglass. Families shared holiday meals via Zoom. Despite the warnings and precautions, January became the deadliest month in the U.S. for the pandemic. Total deaths surpassed soldier fatalities in WWII. In addition, variants of the virus were identified in three states on Jan. 4. By the one-year anniversary of the first U.S. case on Jan. 20, more 400,000 Americans had died from the virus.

FLAT FANS

FROM ATHLETES TO SPECTATORS, the pandemic continued to affect sports. Some high schools moved their football seasons to spring. Major sporting events like college bowl games and Super Bowl LV were played with limited fans. The World Series, held at the 40,300-seat capacity Globe Life Park, allowed only 10,550 fans and filled many of the lower empty seats with cardboard cutouts.



IN SCHOOL OR OUT?



IN JANUARY 2021, the CDC said it was safe for schools to open but controversy continued. Educational plans varied from school to school, district to district and state to state. Plans ranged from in-person instruction — with masks, social distancing and barriers — to remote learning from home, or a hybrid combination of both. Some schools offered both in-person and virtual options and let students and parents decide, while others offered alternate-day plans. Experts, teachers and parents agreed in-person instruction benefitted students the most. By late winter, there were discussions about offering summer classes in some areas.

Virtual Reality

Covid restrictions continued into the Spring 2021 semester, so most live events and large gatherings were still not possible. University offices and student organizations continued to innovate and improvise to provide virtual equivalents for the activities students would have attended in person in previous years.

When the weather got warmer, more students became visible outdoors on campus. The patio in front of the UC was once again a popular meeting spot, although most tried to maintain social distancing and keep their masks on when they weren't eating or drinking. Some smaller in-person events were possible, like the group of students and faculty who gathered by the water feature on April 28 to celebrate Pride and diversity. But major event venues like GPAC and the Jones Center were still empty.

As the end of the semester approached, seniors looked forward to graduation, which would finally return to the Quad for a traditional ceremony. Covid infection rates had fallen by then, and outdoor events were considered safe without masks and distancing. Almost everyone appreciated the easing of restrictions, while realizing that the "old normal" would never be normal again.





Back on the Quad

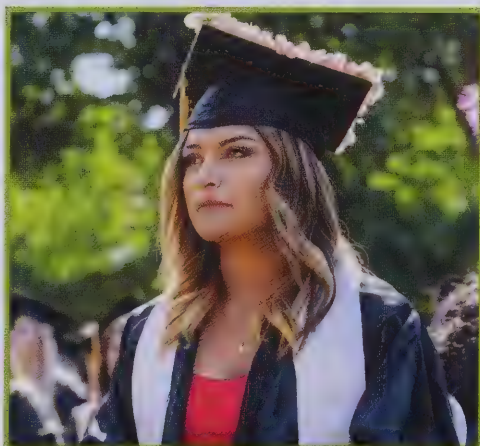
On Saturday morning, May 22, undergraduates crossed the stage to receive their diplomas from Chancellor Robin Gary Cummings, joining 1,045 fellow graduates at Spring 2021 Commencement. With all the traditional pomp and circumstance and the processional led by the Lumbee ambassadors and flutist, the outdoor exercises were a welcome return to a sense of normalcy for thousands of family and friends gathered along the balloon-filled Quad. Students from The Graduate School had received their degrees on Friday evening, May 21. Their commencement exercises were almost a return to pre-pandemic normalcy, but the location was changed from the GPAC to the Quad.

Keynote speaker and Pembroke native Sheila Cummings is a highly successful founder and owner of an aerospace engineering firm in Alabama, though it wasn't in her plans. She enrolled in the pre-engineering program at UNCP after a recruiter crushed her dreams of becoming an Air Force pilot. "What that recruiter did for me that day was to ignite what I refer to as 'the fire in my belly'—the drive that gets you up every day determined to make a difference," Cummings told the graduates. Cummings went on to earn her aerospace engineering degree, and, in 2009, she opened Cummings Aerospace—a company dedicated to delivering engineering solutions to the U.S. Department of Defense. "Every day, I get to live out my dream of serving the military, just not the way I originally planned. Graduates, pursue your passion relentlessly. Develop your definition of success and find your voice and use it for good."

Chancellor Robin Gary Cummings told the graduates that despite being surrounded by uncertainty this past year, they kept a positive attitude and remained focused on their goals. "You chose to fight, to persist, to adapt, to persevere. You didn't succumb and retreat when every day a new fear was introduced into our vocabulary. Your presence here today is testimony to your determination to achieve. Always be led by your dreams, not pushed by circumstances or by fear," Dr. Cummings said. Cummings's parting advice to the Class of 2021 was to find success in life but also look for significance. "Be the person you were called to be—who you've hoped to be—and create a world that's not only better for you, but each other."

Among the Spring 2021 graduates was Taja Flagg. After serving six and a half years in the Army, she was looking forward to starting her new career as a pediatric nurse at UNC Rex Hospital in Raleigh. She enrolled in UNCP's nursing program, determined to fulfill her passion after an autoimmune disorder diagnosis sidelined her from practicing nursing in the military. "I feel extremely blessed to have this opportunity," said the Raeford resident and single mother of three. "UNCP gave me my start. The instructors guided me along the way. It was a privilege to be accepted into this program, and it means a lot to finish and say, 'we made it!'"



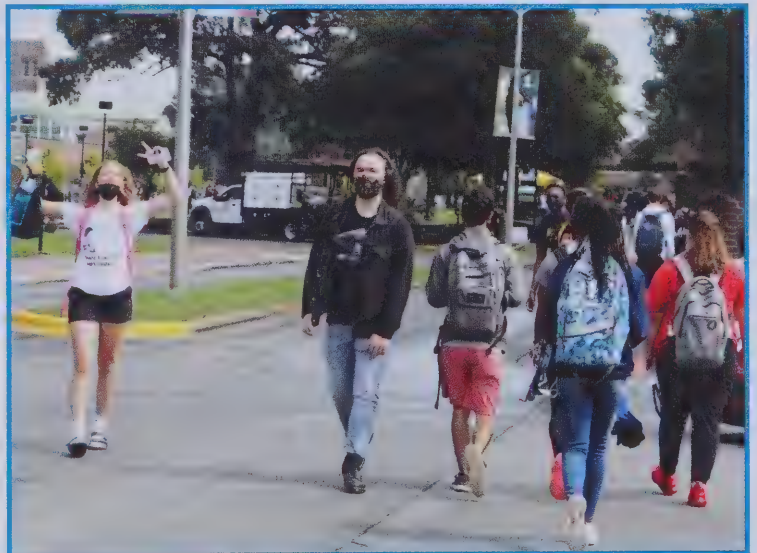






Welcome, Braves

UNCP welcomed its new freshman class in Fall 2021 with a week of activities to make them feel at home and get them engaged in campus life. The BraveNation Bash provided a chance to meet members of various student organizations they might want to join. Other fun events included Game Night in the UC, Movie Night at the football stadium, and a Paint Party on the UC Lawn. The members of the Class of 2025 bonded during Brave Walk and listened to the speakers at Convocation, which was back in the GPAC this year. As Welcome Week ended, campus filled with returning students, hopeful that the coming year would be a bit less stressful than the one before.





They're Back!

Pembroke Day, one of UNCP's longest-running traditions, returned to the Quad on Thursday, September 30, 2021, after a year's absence. This collaboration between the university and the Town of Pembroke dates back to 1990, when it was instituted by former Chancellor Joseph B. Oxendine. The event featured booths representing student clubs, campus organizations, academic departments, and university programs together with local vendors, nonprofits, and health care agencies, many offering crafts, informational materials, promotional giveaways, and food. Student Health Services coordinated a Health Fair, which included free health screenings. Entertainment was provided by Mark McKinney & Co. and Alexis Jones, the Spirit of the Carolinas Marching Band, and the Pembroke Singers. Students and community members had a great time meeting new people while strolling around the booths, seeing what each group had to offer. Everyone loves free stuff and free food!

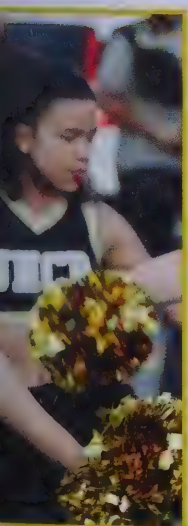
This was one of many live events that returned as Covid protocols eased in Fall 2021. Outdoor celebrations like Lumbee Homecoming and Halloween were back, but indoor ones returned, too. Students could engage with other cultures at events like the Hispanic Heritage Festival and Chinese Moon Festival, both held in the UC Annex. And the band returned to the GPAC for its holiday concert~Who knew you could play wind instruments while wearing a mask?





Go Braves!

Homecoming was back in Fall 2021 with a full slate of activities from October 20-23, including the ever-popular parade and bonfire on Thursday, October 21, and a Vanilla Ice concert in the GPAC the following evening that had a nostalgic appeal for some of the alumni who returned to campus for the Homecoming events. Saturday, October 23, started with tailgating activities before the fans entered the stadium and UNCP took the field against Charleston for the much-anticipated Homecoming football game, which the Braves won by one touchdown, 21-14. Drama Sutton and Camilla Alston were crowned Homecoming King and Queen during the halftime show, which also featured performances by the marching band and drill team. Everyone left the stadium filled with Brave spirits as Homecoming came to an end-until next year!

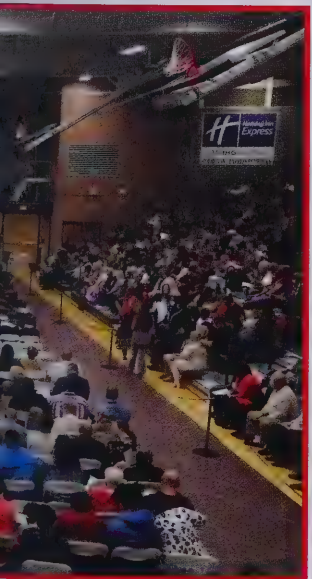
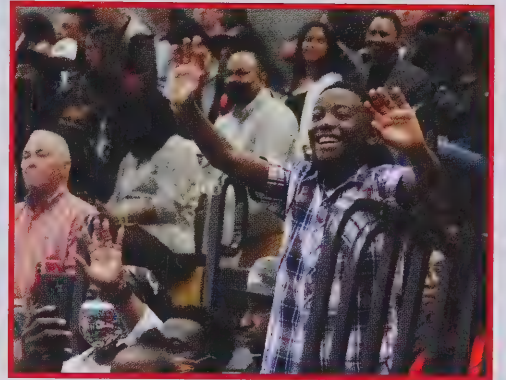


We Did It!

Over 1,000 undergraduate and graduate degrees were awarded at the 2021 Winter Commencement exercises on Friday, December 10, and Saturday, December 11, the first indoor commencements at UNCP since December of 2019. On Friday, December 10, The Graduate School awarded 372 degrees to its newest alumni at an evening ceremony in the Givens Performing Arts Center. UNCP education professor and keynote speaker Laura Staal asked the graduates to remember that everything they say and do creates an impact. "Make changes to your life by saying and doing things that impact the world," Dr. Staal said. Kyle Pence and his wife, Kristine, of Charlotte, crossed the stage together inside the GPAC, earning matching MBA degrees. "It was definitely a 'we did it' situation because we had each other's back. I was pushing him. He was pushing me, and here we are 14 months later with MBAs behind our last name," Kristine said.

UNC System President Peter Hans served as the keynote speaker for the undergraduate exercises, which were held in the gym of the English Jones Center on Saturday, December 11. Hans paid homage to the university's history, its founders, and its connection to the Lumbee community during his remarks. "UNC Pembroke is no ordinary college, and you are not ordinary graduates," said Hans, who, like so many at commencement, was a first-generation student. "Today, you walk in the footsteps of brilliant and brave men and women who understood that you could be ambitious and well-grounded at the same time, that you can strive for better not just on your own behalf, but on behalf of your whole community. Those North Carolinians who built this public university are trusting you to take your talents and your education and put them to good use. You will have opportunities that aren't always available to the two-thirds of your fellow citizens who don't have a degree," Hans said.

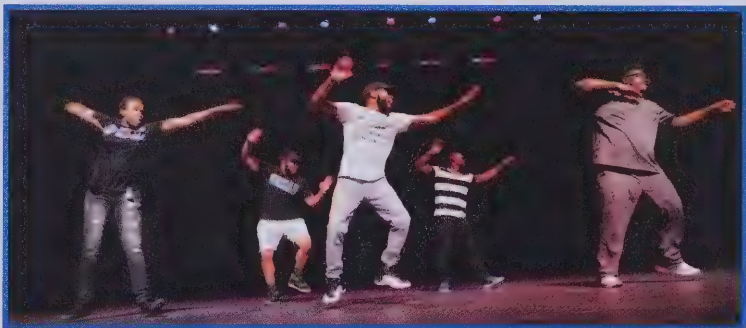
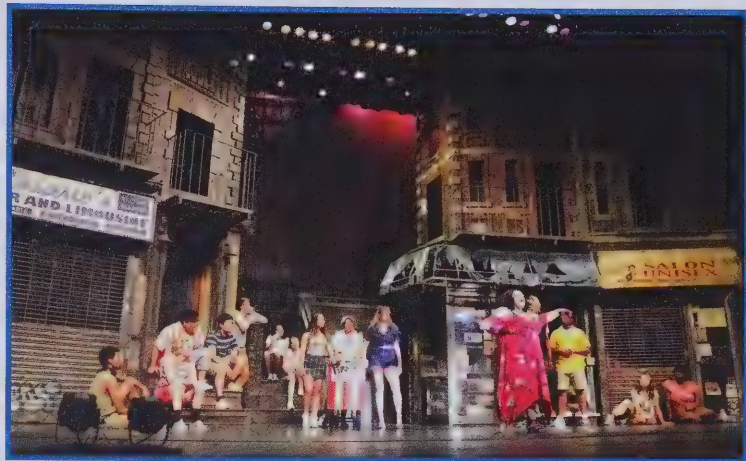




Spring Ahead

The Spring 2022 semester began with the campus dusted in snow on January 22 and was full of activities, including a Black Culture Festival in the UC Annex on February 24 and the BraveNation Powwow in the gym on March 19. Members of the Art Club had a sale on the UC Lawn on March 30. April brought many other outdoor events, such as Pony Palooza on April 12 and the Festival of Old Main on April 23, both featuring inflatables, games, food, and fun. Student performers took the stage at the GPAC throughout the month, starting with the Music Department's April 4 concert performance of *Chess*, the musical by Benny Andersson and Björn Ulvaeus of ABBA with lyrics by Ulvaeus and Tim Rice. Students got a chance to showcase their singing, dancing, and other performance skills in the Talent Show on April 12. Closing out the month was the Theatre program's fully-staged, fantastic production of Lin-Manuel Miranda's *In the Heights*. Thoughts then turned to exams, graduation, and the summer to come.





Mission Accomplished

The construction projects that were works in progress in 2019 (see pages 24-25) have been completed. The fully-renovated West Hall is now the Joseph B. Oxendine Administrative Building (inset on right), dedicated to the former Chancellor who passed away in April 2020. The building houses the College of Arts and Sciences administration, Accessibility Resource Center, Teaching and Learning Center, Offices of Online Learning, Internal Audit, Title IX Clery and Compliance, and the Division of Information Technology. James A. Thomas Hall (below), the new home to the Thomas School of Business, opened to students in January 2022 and was formally dedicated in April. A state-of-the-art facility, it features offices, classrooms, a business career center, a 300-seat auditorium, an interactive market-style trading room, student discussion areas and an eatery. The new building will drive the university's efforts to continue building an educated workforce in southeastern North Carolina.





Spring 2022 Commencement—May 13-14







Student organizations help make the campus what it is. Joining an organization and participating in its social events and community service activities is one of the best ways for students to make friends and get to know themselves. Prior to the Covid-19 pandemic, Greeks and other organizations were very visible on campus. They were always tabling inside the University Center or on the UC patio and lawn, drumming up support for their events and encouraging new people to join.

Then the pandemic hit, and that was when everything changed. Organizations weren't able to meet in person. Because all meetings had to be held virtually, it was hard for groups to recruit and engage members because students weren't interested in being online all day. Membership numbers became lower, and this was when some organizations started to slowly fade out. Even students who were interested found it harder to get actively involved on campus. A lot of incoming freshmen did not join organizations until their sophomore year, when things started to open up.

As some of the Covid restrictions began to be lifted, this allowed more students to start attending events in person again, wearing masks. Although things were a lot better during the 2021-22 academic year, it was still hard for students to become acclimated to college life and get involved with organizations, but they were doing the best that they could.

Organizations

Brave Connections

UNCP provided opportunities for students to participate in over 100 registered student organizations, including student government, special interest groups, fraternities and sororities, scholastic and professional honorary societies, departmental clubs, cultural and identity interest groups, religious organizations, and sports and recreation clubs. If you had an interest, UNCP had an organization for you!

The Student Government Association (SGA) represented and safeguarded the interests of students, providing them with an avenue for action on matters pertaining to student rights and welfare. The Student Government Association was elected by the student body each spring. All students attending UNCP automatically became members of the SGA, and every full-time student who had at least a 2.5 cumulative average had the privilege of seeking positions.

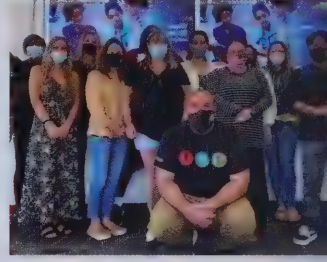
The Pembroke Activities Council (PAC) was a completely student-led organization that built community and institutional affinity by planning, organizing, and carrying out programs based on the social needs of the campus. Many of the events reflected in the pages of this yearbook were the result of their efforts. By joining this group, students gained access to professional development opportunities, increased their leadership capacity, and created lifelong bonds.

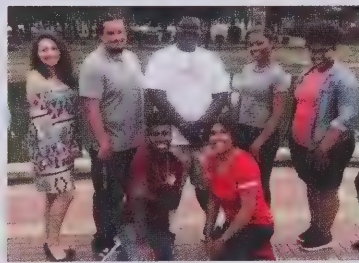
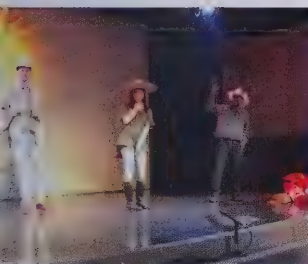
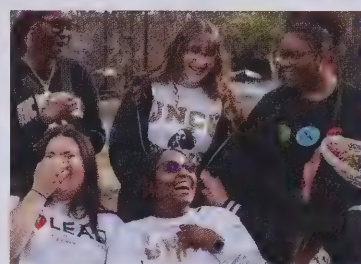
Lifelong bonds were also fostered by membership in one of the many Greek organizations active on campus; see pages 62-63 for an overview of fraternity and sorority life.

Depicted on the right are members of a wide variety of student organizations at events from 2019-2022. Some are performing; some are representing their groups at Pembroke Day, BraveNation Bash, and other University activities; and some are just getting together with their fellow members for recognition, celebration, and fellowship. The groups shown here are just a representative sample of many that were active on our campus. More information on student organizations could be found on BraveConnect, an online resource maintained by the office of Campus Engagement & Leadership that some students and groups relied on to stay connected during the many months when meetings had to be held virtually and there were no groups at tables outside the UC publicizing their upcoming events. The return of these in-person connections was welcomed during the 2021-22 year.

DISCOVER
EVENTS
& GET
CONNECTED

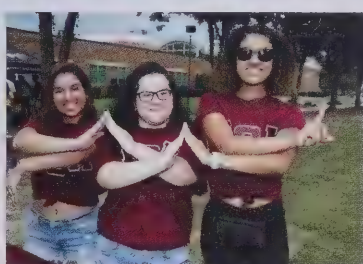
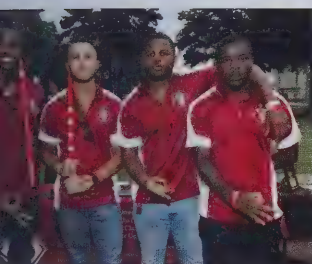
BRAVECONNECT







Alphabet Soup



The fraternity and sorority community provides an opportunity for lifetime membership in an organization committed to values-based leadership.

The **College Panhellenic Association** promotes superior scholarship and high social and moral standards and supports several philanthropic projects. Three of its organizations had active chapters at UNCP as of 2022:

Alpha Sigma Alpha Sorority, **Kappa Delta** Sorority, and **Zeta Tau Alpha** Women's Fraternity.

The **Diversified Greek Council** offers an alternative governing body to reflect the diversity of the student body and educate the campus and community on cultural awareness. Its three organizations as of 2022 were **Phi Mu** Alpha Sinfonia Fraternity, **Sigma Alpha Iota** International Music Fraternity, and **Sigma Omicron Epsilon** Sorority.

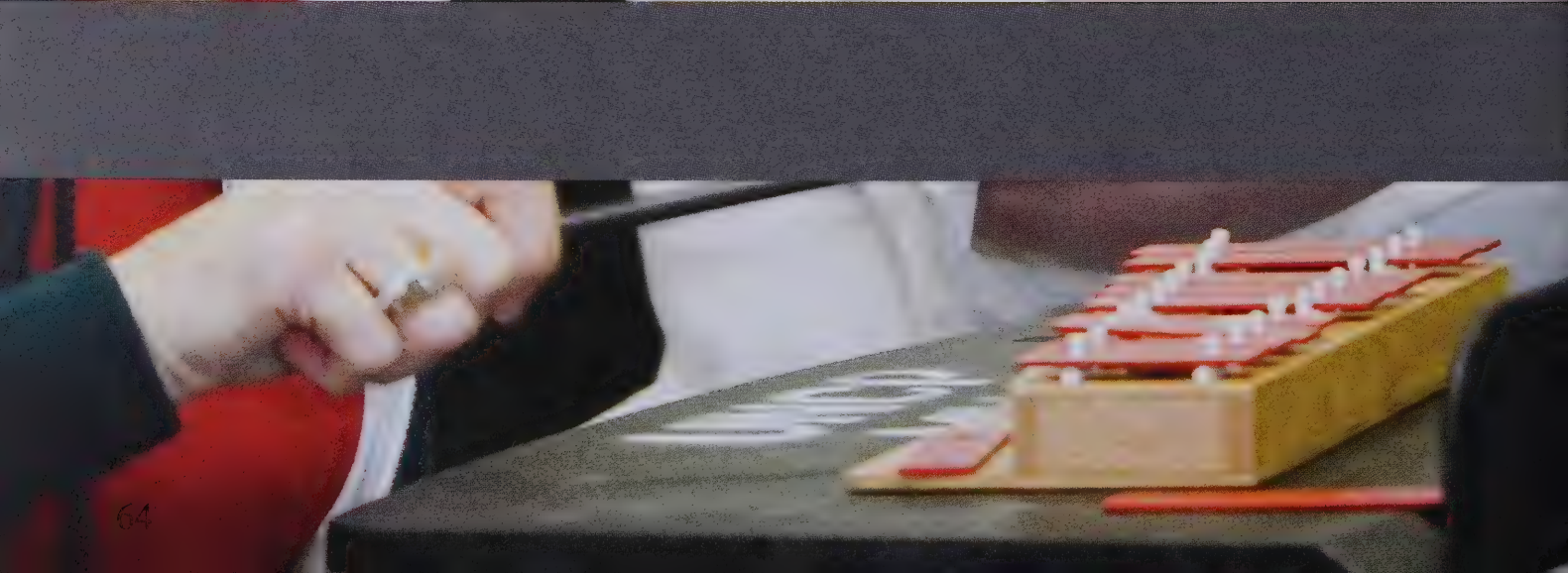
Hok Nosai is the first, and only, Native American Greek Life Council. It strives to address matters of mutual concern to its member organizations and facilitate their active involvement in the local community and on campus. Its two member organizations as of 2022 were **Alpha Pi Omega** Sorority and **Phi Sigma Nu** Fraternity.


The **Interfraternity Council** had only active member organization as of 2022: **Alpha Sigma Phi**.

The UNCP **National Pan-Hellenic Council** provides a means for preserving the cultural heritage of the historically African American Fraternity/Sorority organizations; a forum for addressing items of mutual interest to the NPHC organizations; an experience of self-governance necessary for the development of the emergent leader; and an opportunity to make recommendations to member organizations for the greater purpose and interest of the University and community. Eight of the Divine Nine organizations had active chapters at UNCP as of 2022: **Alpha Kappa Alpha** Sorority, **Alpha Phi Alpha** Fraternity, **Iota Phi Theta** Fraternity, **Kappa Alpha Psi** Fraternity, **Omega Psi Phi** Fraternity, **Phi Beta Sigma** Fraternity, **Sigma Gamma Rho** Sorority, and **Zeta Phi Beta** Sorority.

The ninth NPHC organization, **Delta Sigma Theta** Sorority, had an active chapter at UNCP for many years. Their 2019-20 photo is included here, as is the 2019-20 photo of the UNCP chapter of **Lambda Theta Alpha**, a national Latina sorority that was active on campus for several years.

NOTE: Several Greek organizations are represented here by multiple photos, taken at different times between 2019 and 2021. Others are not pictured at all. The yearbook staff reached out to all organizations multiple times during these years to request photos and information for inclusion in this edition, but some never responded. We thank the groups who did respond and/or shared usable images with us online.

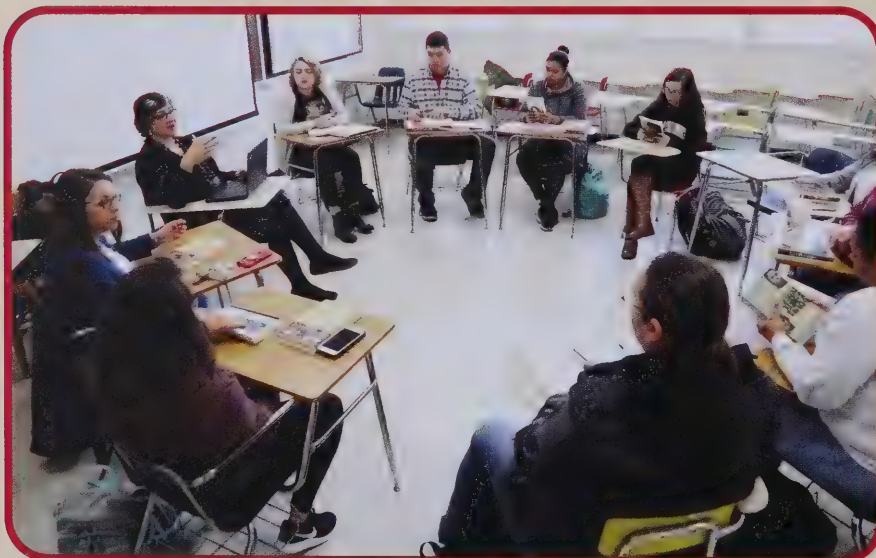
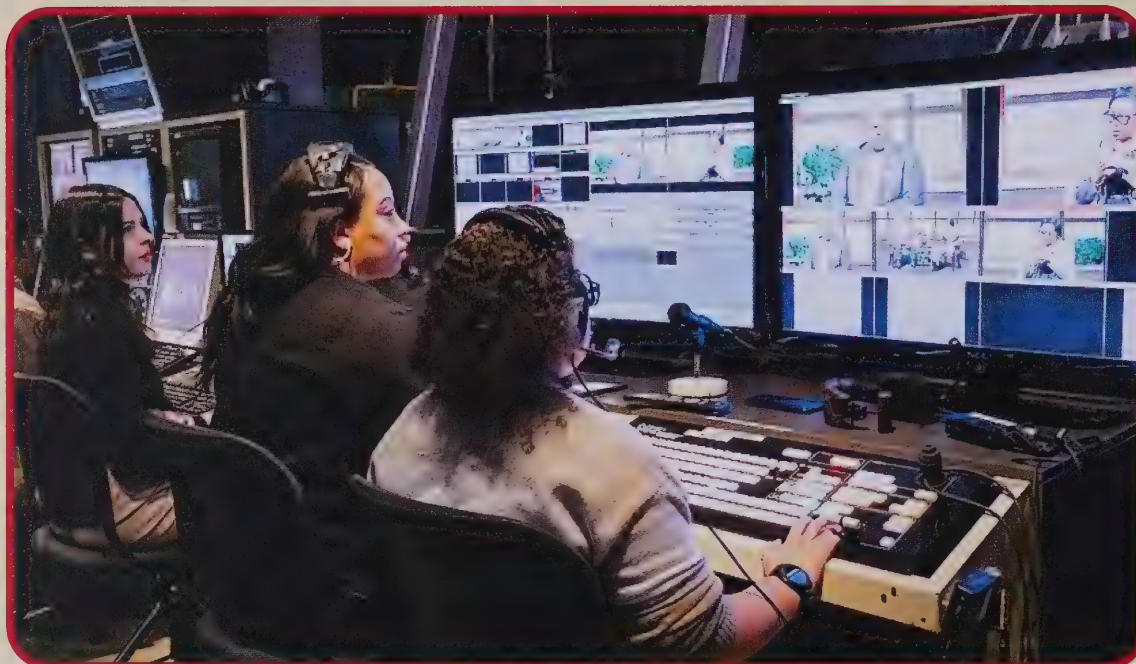
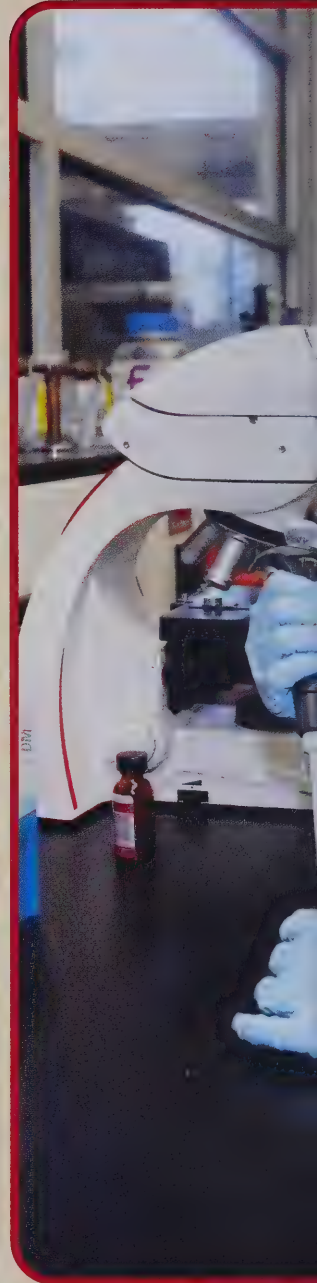
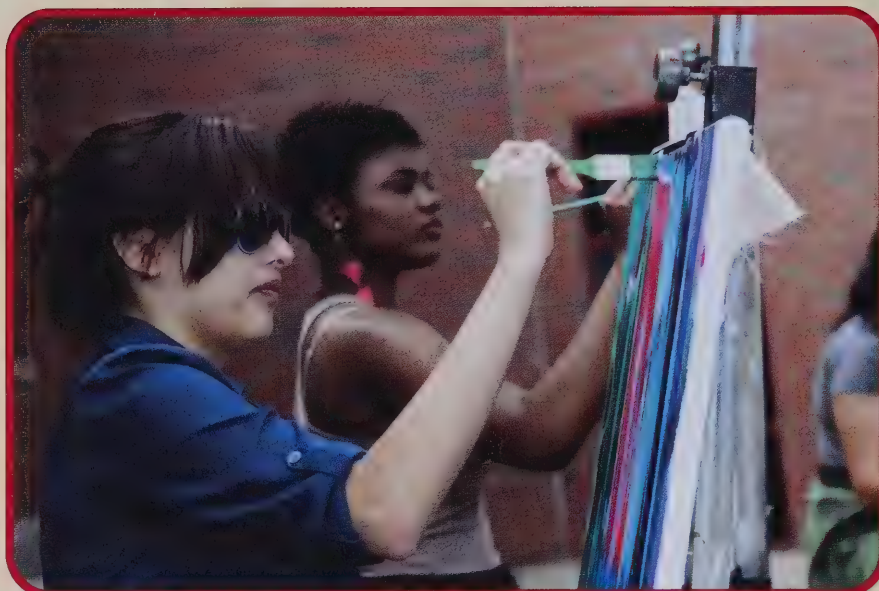


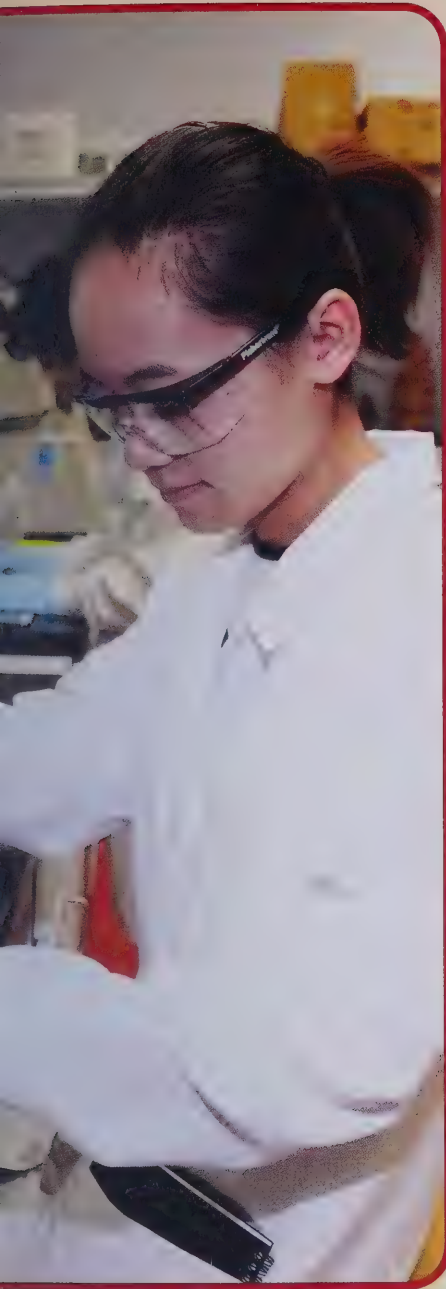


Academic programs and offerings have continued to expand during the three years reflected in this book. James A. Thomas Hall, which began as a construction site behind the Dial Building in early 2020, opened its doors in the spring of 2022, providing state-of-the-art classrooms and technology for students in the School of Business. The McKenzie-Elliott School of Nursing provided valuable community outreach and hands-on learning for its students through its participation in Covid-19 testing and vaccination efforts. Students and faculty in all academic programs became increasingly dependent on technology—some by choice, others out of necessity during the pandemic—and the Office of Online Learning responded with training and support. Despite these and other changes, UNCP continued to be a place where learning was personal, even when that had to happen over Webex rather than in person.

Academics

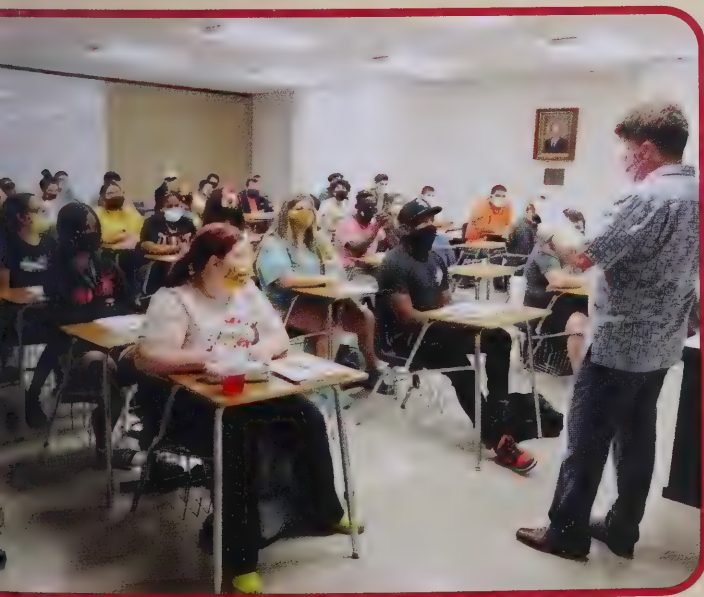
NOTE: Many of these photos were taken prior to March 2020, before the mask requirement was implemented as part of UNCP's Covid-19 protocols.





From Face-to-Face ...

Small class sizes have always been an important feature of academic life at UNCP. Students came together in classrooms, labs, studios, and other spaces on campus to engage with faculty, with information and ideas, and with one another. During the early months of the Covid-19 pandemic, when all classes were moved online, students and faculty adapted as best they could. Campus reopened for the 2020-21 academic year, but social distancing requirements forced many classes to meet in “hybrid” format, with some students attending in person while others logged in online. Many found this preferable to the online-only approach taken by other universities, but everyone was relieved when distancing requirements were relaxed and full-size classes resumed for the 2021-22 academic year. Masks were still required, but students enrolled in face-to-face classes could once again come together and share the learning experience with all their classmates in the same space.





American Indian Studies



Agricultural Science



Art



Biology



Department of
Counseling



Economics and Decision
Science



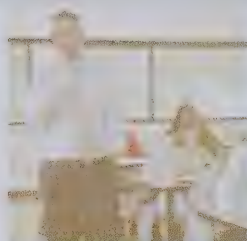
Educational Leadership
and Specialties



English, Theatre, and
World Languages



Interdisciplinary Studies



History



Kinesiology



Mass Communication



The McKenzie-Elliott
School of Nursing



Philosophy and Religion



Political Science and
Public Administration



Psychology



Mute



Start video



... To Faces on a Screen

01:10



Meeting Info

Chat



Business Administration



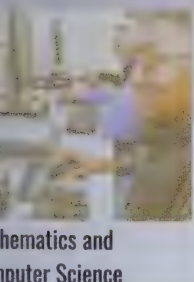
Chemistry and Physics



Geology and Geography



Global Engagement



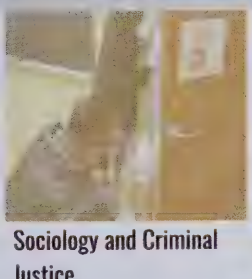
Mathematics and
Computer Science



Music



Sociology and Criminal
Justice



Sociology and Criminal
Justice

Online learning has become more common at UNCP, a trend that will surely continue into the future. When Covid-19 forced the university to move all classes online after Spring Break in March 2020, students and faculty who were already involved in online programs or classes were better prepared for at least that aspect of the pandemic than many of their colleagues who had limited (or no) experience with this educational format. And then there were the hardware and software issues! Some students lived in areas where high-speed Internet and WiFi connections were unavailable or prohibitively expensive; others had no computer or only limited access to one that had to be shared with other family members. The university mobilized to offer training, support, and assistance, as did some Internet and software providers. When classes resumed online, attendance and other requirements were relaxed, and everyone did the best they could under very difficult circumstances.

UNCP returned to in-person instruction (with some variations) for the 2020-21 academic year, a decision that was welcomed by a majority of students. Those who had risk factors for Covid-19 were accommodated; students were able to switch to online classes, and faculty and staff could work remotely. Strict Covid protocols were in effect, and many face-to-face classes were shifted to a “hybrid” format to allow for adequate social distancing, so small class sizes got even smaller, at least in terms of the number of students actually present in the classroom on a given day. As the year progressed, we became more familiar with Webex/Zoom/Microsoft Teams—when they were working, that is. Some embraced online learning; others were happy to return to full in-person classes for the 2021-22 academic year.

Send to: Everyone

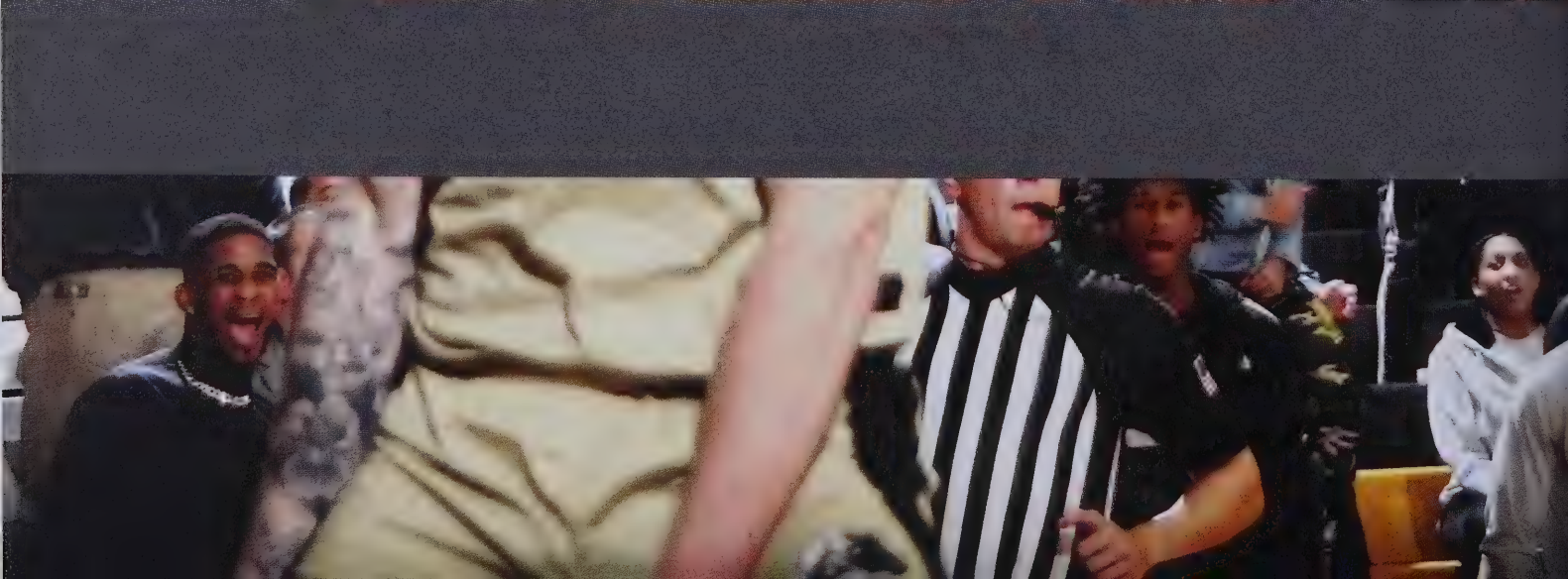


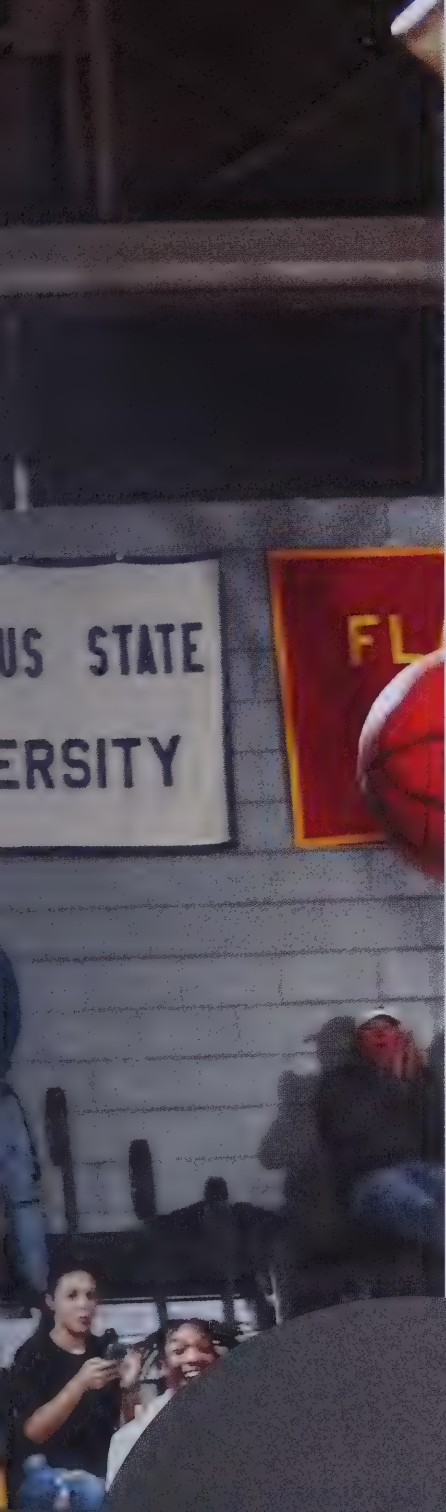
Enter chat message here



Record







Sports in 2019-2020 provided many thrilling moments, including football's home win over Winston-Salem State and wrestling's NCAA Super Region Championship, but the Covid-19 lockdown in March 2020 shortened the seasons for spring sports. The impact of the pandemic on sports during the 2020-21 academic year was dramatic. Fall sports were deferred to the spring of 2021. Winter sports played abbreviated schedules, with men's basketball opting out six games into their season. As Covid restrictions began to ease in 2021-22, schedules returned to something closer to normal for UNCP's inaugural seasons as members of Conference Carolinas. Soccer was back in fall 2021 and won the conference championship. There was a Homecoming football game again in 2021, and the Braves won it. Men's basketball returned to the court to win 27 games in their 2021-22 season. Our student-athletes have met the challenges of Covid-19 the same way they meet challenges on the field and in the classroom, and their fans were happy to return to the stands to support them in person. Go Braves!

Sports

2019-20 Sports.....	72-97
2020-21 Sports.....	98-115
2021-22 Sports.....	116-133

2019 Baseball

UNCP		OPP.
10	Shepherd	4
10	Shepherd	9
13	Shepherd	12
9	Indiana U-PA	7
1	Indiana U-PA	11
22	Indiana U-PA	3
14	Augusta	9
9	Augusta	14
3	Augusta	5
1	Catawba	13
4	Lander	10
6	Lander	7
8	Lander	12
5	Wingate	1
6	Young Harris	11
2	Young Harris	8
9	Young Harris	3
7	Queens	8
8	Columbus State	1
4	Columbus State	5
10	Columbus State	5
21	Barton	4
11	Anderson	4
8	Anderson	0
13	Anderson	0
5	Coker	6
20	Georgia College	5
6	Georgia College	9
10	Georgia College	11
6	Wingate	10
12	USC Aiken	13
10	USC Aiken	6
15	USC Aiken	3
7	North Greenville	11
5	Francis Marion	15
5	Francis Marion	6
23	Francis Marion	10
11	Queens	12
4	North Georgia	16
2	North Georgia	8
18	North Georgia	6
7	Barton	8
1	Flagler	9
5	Flagler	6
7	Flagler	2
2	Georgia Southwestern	1
10	Georgia Southwestern	11
4	Georgia Southwestern	13



Batter Up!

Baseball won their first game against Shepherd on February 1 with a score of 10 to 4 to start their Spring 2019 season off on a positive note. Overall, the team did a great job this Spring, especially after the Covid-19 pandemic started to affect the schedule. The Braves ended up winning 21 games and losing 27. A major victory came on February 10 against Indiana of PA, with the Braves scoring 22 and IUP scoring only 3. The team broke a 6-year-old Peach Belt Conference record by drawing 19 walks, and took advantage of seven errors by the visiting IUP players on the way to this series-clinching 22-3 win over the Crimson Hawks at Sammy Cox Field. On March 12, the Braves erupted for 16 hits, including either of the extra-base variety, and scored 21 times behind a five-arm pitching staff in their 21-4 victory over Barton. The team then rattled off 10 more wins to wrap up what would turn out to be a shortened season.



2019 Baseball Roster

(Team Photo Not Available)

Kevon Perkins, Zach Ghelfi, Luke Jackson, Trevor Clemons, Seth Hartings, Dawson Painter, Brennen Hogan, Jarratt Mobley, Landen Smith, River Ryan, Brandon Winstead, Ethan Baucom, Bobby Dixon, Hank Simpson, Tanner Routh, Jordan Toney, Nile Ball, Elijah Helton, Blake Helms, Cole Lovin, Davis Hurd, Alex Simpson, Robert Corallo, Tyler Bowen, A.J Stead, Randy Floyd, Trevor Sprinkle, Connor Grainger, Garrett Littleton, Jacob Morrison, Matthew Baucom, Carlton Jackson, Dylan Radford, Mason Stickney, Trenton Walsh, Trace Hagler

Softball Is Not for Softies!

Softball opened its 2019 season with a .500 performance at the UNCP Invitational on February 2-3, facing teams from Kutztown and Shippensburg. They next won both games against Fayetteville State at home on February 5. But their first road trip resulted in two losses to Catawba on February 9. The rest of the season continued to yield mixed results, but things got interesting toward the end. UNCP used a suicide squeeze in the ninth inning to slip by Georgia Southwestern 1-0 in the opener of a doubleheader on April 13, picking up their first extra-inning victory of the season. But the Hurricanes rallied to take the second game 5-6. The Lady Braves were still in the hunt for a PBC Tournament berth, which they ultimately achieved.

UNCP faced top-seeded and fifth-ranked North Georgia in the quarterfinal round of the Peach Belt Conference Tournament on May 3, making their first appearance at the PBC Tournament since a run to the semifinal round in 2016. Senior Alyssa Price hit a 3-run homer in the top of the sixth to give UNCP a late lead, but North Georgia rallied for three runs to stun the Lady Braves, 7-5. The setback concluded their 2019 campaign with an overall record of 22-27.



2019 Softball: J.J. Oxendine, Bucky Bonyng, Zach Ghelfi, Gage Hammonds, Trevor Clemons, Jalen Scott, Wellington Guzman, Brennen Hogan, Jarratt Mobley, Landen Smith, River Ryan, Brandon Winstead, Ethan Baucom, Bobby Dixon, Randy Floyd, Tanner Routh, Jake Mayhew, Darren Bowen, Ted McNeill, R.J. Vanvick, Davis Hurd, Alex Simpson, Dylan Radford, Tyler Bowen, James Johnson, Joey DelGatto, Quin Ferguson, Connor Grainger, Garrett Littleton, Jacob Morrison, Justin Bowers, Spencer Faulkner, Chase Jernigan, Mason Stickney, Austin Bass, Landen Harris, Isaiah Thomas, William Glazebrook



2019 Softball

UNCP		OPP.
3	Kutztown	6
5	Shippensburg	10
9	Kutztown	4
8	Shippensburg	4
9	Fayetteville State	0
16	Fayetteville State	1
4	Catawba	7
0	Catawba	9
10	Elizabeth City State	0
11	Elizabeth City State	3
1	Queens	2
0	Queens	8
1	Wingate	4
0	Wingate	2
8	William Peace	0
6	William Peace	3
2	Newberry	7
4	Newberry	5
1	Coker	5
1	Coker	9
4	North Georgia	8
0	North Georgia	10
1	Young Harris	2
1	Young Harris	10
5	Limestone	6
10	Limestone	7
5	Georgia College	8
6	Georgia College	9
5	Fayetteville State	0
2	Fayetteville State	0
7	USC Aiken	2
11	USC Aiken	16
6	Lander	3
1	Lander	9
4	Flagler	2
11	Flagler	13
6	Winston-Salem State	3
11	Winston-Salem State	3
1	Georgia Southwestern	0
5	Georgia Southwestern	6
2	Francis Marion	1
1	Francis Marion	7
8	Johnson C. Smith	2
12	Johnson C. Smith	4
4	Augusta	2
0	Augusta	8
2	Columbus State	10
1	Columbus State	3
5	North Georgia	7

2019 Track & Field

Men

Gene Anderson Invitational
Wake Forest Invitational
Liberty Kickoff
Carolina Challenge
USC Indoor Open
JDL DMR Invitational
Mount Olive Dual
NCAA Indoor Championships
UNCW Invitational
Winthrop/Adidas Invitational
Adidas/Trojan Challenge
Spikes Classic
Colonial Relays
JCSU Invitational
Pickle Field Day Relays
PBC Championships
Mount Olive First Chance
NCAA Last Chance Qualifier
NCAA Outdoor Championships

40-77



2nd

Women

Gene Anderson Invitational
Wake Forest Invitational
Liberty Kickoff
Carolina Challenge
USC Indoor Open
JDL DMR Invitational
Mount Olive Dual
UNCW Invitational
Winthrop/Adidas Invitational
Adidas/Trojan Challenge
Spikes Classic
Colonial Relays
JCSU Invitational
PBC Championships

36-57



2nd

Aim High!

Track and Field competed in seven meets during their indoor season in January-February 2019 and in nine outdoor meets in March and April before heading to Florida for the Peach Belt Conference Championships on April 18-20. Both the men's and women's teams finished as runners-up, the third straight year that the men finished first or second at the postseason event. In opening-day action, junior Todzah Small claimed top honors in the long jump, while Silus Kipkoech, Matthew Martin and Jonathan Martin claimed three of the top four spots in the 10,000-meter run. Christiana Reynolds was runner-up in the javelin throw and was in fourth place heading into day-two action of the grueling heptathlon; she captured the title the following day. Also on day two, freshman Skylar Moreno and junior Silus Kipkoech combined to sweep the women's and men's titles for the Braves in the 3,000-meter steeplechase. The Black & Gold tacked up four event titles on the day in total, including a stellar performance by the women's 4x100-meter relay squad which smoked the rest of the seven-team field by nearly 0.5 seconds. A dozen Braves made trips to the podium, including senior Logan Ward, who finished less than three seconds

behind Kipkoech in the steeplechase. On the final day, senior Javon Graham (110-meter hurdles) and freshmen Quanterra Harrison (100-meter hurdles) and Dy'Air McCormick all captured event titles. At the NCAA Division II Outdoor Track & Field Championships on May 24, junior Javon Graham registered an 11th place finish in the 110-meter high hurdles. Although not advancing to the finals, Graham picked up second team all-America honors with the performance. In March, Graham had picked up all-America honors at the NCAA Indoor Track & Field Championships after finishing 11th in the 60-meter hurdles. His finish in the outdoor event made him the first UNCP student-athlete in 45 years to earn all-America honors in both the Indoor and Outdoor Track & Field seasons.



2019 Men's Track & Field Roster

Darien Adams, Jamar Adams, Assad Alston, Jarrett Arabie, Brandon Boyles, Jose Castellanos, Christian Ceccato, Jakel Chalmers, Joshua Chepkessir, Kellen Corson, Mason Crawford, Isaiah Daniel, Jathan DeBerry, Darrin Elmore, Dominic Foy, Javon Graham, Curtis Hairston, Tahj Hall, Silus Kipkoech, Terrence Lackey, Justice Leak, Vinson Logan, Juwan Manley, Hunter March, Jonathan Martin, Matthew Martin, Cody Miller, Holden Newman, Ean Ormsby, Todzah Small, Brenton Thomas, Keyshawn Tyler, Logan Ward, Dymir Watson, Adam White, Elijah Woods

2019 Women's Track & Field Roster

Riley Axe, Sam Badami, Khalina Boyce, Britney Chambers, Jazmyne Davis, Raigan Evans, Kaelyn Francis, Quanterra Harrison, Leanna Jacobs, Mikayla King, Lillian Marino, Rekirah McBride, Molly McCann, Dy'Air McCormick, Taya McKeithan, Shelby McMurray, Skylar Moreno, Corey Pethers, Keionna Ray, Christiana Reynolds, Michaela Reynolds, Alayna Richardson, Casey Richardson, Ja'elle Ross-Brown, Tori Saunders, Essence Scott, Kelsi Sheldon, Lyric Troy, Jacques Tucker, Valerie Vinokur, Liz Whitmore

Here's the Kicker

The 2019 Soccer team won fourteen of their twenty games on the season, with 5 losses and one forfeit. The Lady Braves started the season off with a 2-0 against Belmont Abbey on September 7; the two goals were scored by Rilee Seering and Alexis Pitman. The October 20 game against Columbus State went into double overtime, and UNCP's Rilee Seering scored the winning goal, leaving the score 2-1. The game against the Converse Valkyries was a wipeout; the Lady Braves took the win with a score of 5-0. They finished the regular season off on November 8 with a win against Young Harris by a score of 2-0. Most of the season's goals were scored by Rilee Seering with a total of 10. Second was Alexis Pittman, and Paula Valbuena was the third leading scorer with four goals. During the season, Katy Ryan was honored as United Soccer Coaches Scholar All-American.

In postseason play, a defensive miscue by UNCP led to sixth-seeded Clayton State's game-tying goal in the 54th minute in the quarterfinal round of the Peach Belt Conference Tournament on November 12. and Clayton State eventually used a 4-1 edge in the penalty kick shootout to win over the third-seeded Lady Braves. The setback stopped a three-game win streak for UNCP, who nevertheless received an at-large berth in the NCAA Championship Tournament in St. Augustine, FL, on November 22. Although they lost to Lincoln Memorial, 1-3, our soccer team had much to be proud about in their Fall 2019 season.



Rachel Witkin, Gina Ryan, Alexis Pittman, Rilee Seering, Zion Sellers, Bayley Dawson, Madison Hoopes, Maya Grimes, Paula Valbuena, Morgan Hill, Bree Mason, Brianna De Coteau, Nona Borden, Katy Ryan, Kennedy Rucker, Naomi Fountain, Sophia Sweeney, Caroline Uenking, Kristina Stevenson, Leticia Cantera, a Maddison Oxendine.



2019 Soccer		
UNCP		OPP.
2	Belmont Abbey	0
1	Barton	0
1	Shaw	0
1	Lenoir-Rhyne	2
2	Chowan	1
2	Columbus State	1
3	USC Aiken	0
1	North Georgia	2
3	Albany State	2
1	Flagler	2
1	North Greenville	0
3	Clayton State	1
1	Lander	0
1	Georgia Southwestern	0
1	Francis Marion	2
1	Georgia College	0
5	Converse	0
2	Young Harris	0
1	Clayton State	1
1	Lincoln Memorial	3

No Place Like Home

The Braves rocked the 2019 season with a 4-1 winning streak for our home games, including our Homecoming game. At the start of the football season, the Braves won 27-21 over Winston Salem State for our first game. At our next home game against Catawba, we won 28-14, scoring more than 96 yards in the fourth quarter alone. At our Homecoming game, we won 36-27 against Mars Hill, scoring a touchdown with less than 3 minutes remaining in the game.

While the Braves crushed our home games, the team didn't do the greatest during our away games, with a losing streak of 0-6. For our second game of the season, the Braves pushed through and delivered with a score of 16-35 against Virginia State. Our next home game against Limestone, the Braves lost 25-41. The following game, the Braves fared a little worse, with a losing score of 18-69 against Carson-Newman. In the game against Wingate, we went home with a score of 38-48. Our following game against Tusculum was much closer, ending 20-23. Still burning from our loss to Tusculum, the Braves lost again 34-37 to Newberry. Completing our 0-6 losing streak, the Braves lost 31-45 against Lenoir-Rhyne.

While the Braves lost 6 games this season, UNCP pulled through for the final game of the season and won 20-7 against UVA Wise. Over the course of the season, UNCP's passing yardage was an astounding 2237, as opposed to our opponents having 2064. The Braves also excelled in their first downs, having a total of 213 during the season as opposed to an opposing 200. UNCP may not have won every game, but we broke some records and kept our Black-and-Gold spirit throughout the season.





2019 Football		
UNCP		OPP.
27	Winston-Salem State	21
16	Virginia State	35
28	Catawba	14
25	Limestone	41
18	Carson-Newman	69
36	Mars Hill	29
38	Wingate	48
20	Tusculum	23
34	Newberry	37
31	Lenoir-Rhyne	45
20	UVA-Wise	7



h Sheridan
 Price
 Kinley Nelson
 treus McDonald
 adrin Williams
 ac Parks
 on Nixon
 es Saxton
 ay Threatt
 ney Smith
 n Jones
 n Jones
 y Dixon
 mmond Hicks
 own Carter
 dy Creecy
 sir Seck
 hael Clark
 in Jones
 id Salsor
 on Jolly

Jordan Howard
 DeAngelo Blair-Young
 Yavel Morris
 Travis Prince
 Shawn Everett
 Sam Vines
 Jayce Allen
 Luke Brooks
 Cam Caldron
 Leonard Mosley
 Tyshuan Thomas
 Amari Brice-Greene
 Matthew Jamison
 Quinlan Hammond
 Raeshawn Griffin
 Sean Hill
 Cameron Goins
 Dante Bowlding
 Phillip Clay
 Jerry Roberts
 Hunter Braswell

2019 Football

Alex Alteus
 Evan VanMeter
 Collin Williams
 Jack U'Ren
 Jaylyn Locklear
 D.J. Parker
 Masanka Kanku
 Cam Lowery
 C.J. Foxx
 Devin Higgins
 Ben Jaramillo
 Trey Sawyer
 Caleb Fonvielle
 Craig Strickland
 Ryan Watkins
 Reggie Spratling III
 Cameron Hodges
 William Cross
 Stephen Forbes
 Dylan Best
 Timon McMillan

Preston Wise
 Brandon Wood-Potter
 Josh King
 Benjamin Willis
 Gage Baldwin
 Jonnie Varga
 Tavion Copeland
 Joshua Williams
 Reuben Willis
 Daniel Butler
 Jai'Veon Smalls
 Sean Brown
 Noah Ranno
 Bo Osborne
 Colin Abney
 Faheen Diaab
 Thatcher Tillet
 Adonai Aloma
 Devin Cowan
 Kaleb Baker
 Dominique Davis

Branden Spencer
 Bryan McAllister
 Octavis McLaurin
 Taye Vereen
 Isaiah Robinson
 Tyreke King
 Alex Alvarado
 RaShon Bethea
 Austin Blackwell
 Dylan Bollinger
 Elias Crawford
 Justin Crowder
 C.J. Grimes
 Godwin Igboke
 Matthew Locklear
 Connor Mort
 Deyante Pearson
 Carson Sams
 Avery Simmons
 Jameson Stellings
 Noah Whitekettle

Going the Distance

The 2019 men's cross country team ended their regular season of three meets without placing below ninth in the Bulldog Stampede, the Trevecca D2 Showcase, and the Royals Challenge, while the women had strong 4th and 3rd place finishes in the first two meets. At the PBC Championships on October 26, sophomore Joshua Chepkesor broke a 17-year-old meet record by 18 seconds on the way to his second-straight Peach Belt Conference individual title and led the Braves to a third-place showing in the final team standings. Silus Kipkoech picked up all-conference nods with a time of 24:53.76 and a runner-up showing for the second consecutive year. Jarett Arabie crossed in 22nd place with a time of 27:00.88, while newcomers Mat Maier (27:18.71) and Tirus Kirwa (27:28.65) rounded out the scoring for the Black & Gold in 25th and 26th place, respectively. On the women's side, Erman Jepleting (3rd) and Skylar Moreno (12th) both raked in all-conference laurels with top-15 showings to lead the Lady Braves to a fifth place finish.

The Braves took a two-week hiatus from competition before returning to action on November 9 at the NCAA Southeast Region Championships in Wingate. Sophomore Joshua Chepkesor captured his second consecutive region title after turning in the second fastest 10K time in school history and led the men's cross country team to a seventh-place showing on Saturday morning at the NCAA Southeast Region Championships. On the women's side, Erman Jepleting (10th) and Skylar Moreno (21th) both raked in all-region honors with top-25 showings to pace the Lady Braves to an eighth-place finish.

By virtue of his region title, Chepkesor automatically qualified to compete as an individual at the NCAA Division II Championships on November 23 in Sacramento, CA, where he became just the second student-athlete in the history of the UNCP cross country program to post a sub-30-minute time in the 10K on the way to finishing 8th at the NCAA Division II National Championships in northern California on Saturday. Chepkesor registered a personal best time of 29:55.9 at the event and finished just 24 seconds off of the pace of national champion Ezra Mutai of American International. His performance marked the best result for a UNCP runner at the NCAA Division II National Championships since former all-American Garry Henry won the national championship in 1980. This result marked just the fifth top-10 finish for a Peach Belt Conference student-athlete in the 30-year history of the league.



2019 Men's Cross Country: Jarett Arabie, Delsin Burkhart, Joshua Chepkesor, Silus Kipkoech, Tirus Kirwa, Hunter Levy, Adam Linde, Mat Maier, Holden Newman, Ean Ormsby, Alex Quillan, Will Stratton



2019 Cross Country Men

Bulldog Stampede	9 th
Trevecca D2 Showcase	5 th
Royals Challenge	1-9 th
PBC Championships	3 rd
NCAA SE Region Championships	7 th
NCAA Championships	NTS

Women

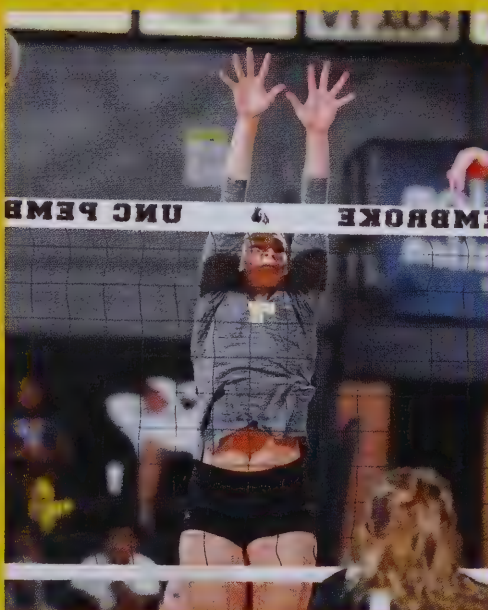
Bulldog Stampede	4 th
Trevecca D2 Showcase	3 rd
Royals Challenge	24 th
PBC Championships	5 th
NCAA SE Region Championships	7 th



2019 Women's Cross Country: Riley Axe, Sam Badami, Erman
 Meting, Brookelyn Johnson, Molly MCCann, Shelby McMurray,
 Solar Moreno, Corey Pethers, Alycia Richardson, Valary Samoei

2019 Volleyball

UNCP		OPP.
2	Coker	3
2	Grand Valley State	3
3	Fayetteville State	0
3	UVA-Wise	0
3	Elizabeth City State	0
3	Chowan	1
3	West Alabama	1
3	Converse	0
0	Eckerd	3
1	Mount Olive	3
3	St. Andrews	0
0	Valdosta State	3
2	Converse	3
0	West Florida	3
3	Erskine	0
1	Wingate	3
0	Belmont Abbey	3
1	Coker	3
1	USC Aiken	3
1	Lander	3
3	Catawba	1
0	Francis Marion	3
3	Barton	0
3	Mount Olive	1
0	Flagler	3
0	Augusta	3
3	Georgia College	2
3	Chowan	0
0	Lander	3
0	USC Aiken	3
1	Francis Marion	3
3	Georgia College	0
0	Augusta	3
3	St. Andrews	0
0	Flagler	3
1	Augusta	3





Net Results

The 2019 Volleyball team had a pretty eventful season, finishing with an overall record of 15-21. The opening match took place on September 7th against Coker. The team gained their first victory of the season against Fayetteville State with a 3-0. The volleyball team had a 6-match win streak. The match played on November 9th against St. Andrews was special because the team guaranteed the Black and Gold first winning record in Pembroke since the 2013 campaign. Resulted in being the 8th home victory of the season for the Braves. The team registered their first straight-sets sweep of the Peach Belt Conference opponent since 2013 with a 3-0 win. Braves finished off a season sweep of a league opponent for the first time since besting Francis Marion twice in 2015. It was also the 1st home victory for UNCP over a league foe since November 11, 2015. The .

On and off the volleyball court the players demonstrated courage and great



sportsmanship. UNCP Junior Savannah Bean went on a mission trip in Kenya to continue to show her benevolence. The trip stood out to her because she was able to teach something that she was passionate about which is volleyball to children who were eager to learn. "It was fun to be able to teach them some of my moves and techniques that I picked up along with learning different little tricks they use while they are playing," said Bean.



2019 Volleyball: Kasandra Sturges, Elly Hicks, Erin O'Donnell, April Tankersley, Ashley Caesar, Brianna Warren, Selena Biele, Elise Martin, Annon Skyrd, Kalia Crowder, Savannah Brown, Abby Farr, Raven Oates, Anna Heinz, Casey O'Quinn, Morgan Gibbs

2019-20 Swimming

UNCP		OPP.
128	Columbia College	48
113	Lenoir-Rhyne	131
92	Mars Hill	162
74	Campbell	98
142	Sweet Briar	27
127	Pfeiffer	52
137	Converse	99
212	St. Andrews	48

Guilford Invitational	1 st
Fall Frenzy Invitational	15 th
GMAC/MEC Championships	4 th
Royal Open	NTS





Making a Splash!

Things went swimmingly for the Lady Braves in their 2019-20 season. They won five of their eight meets and placed fourth at the GMAC/MEC Championships to close out their season in February. After winning their first meet against Columbia on September 28 with a score of 128 to 48, the team took first place in the Guilford Invitational on October 5. While they took a loss at Lenoir-Rhyne vs. Mars Hill, ending the meet with a score of 113-131, at Converse, they won the meet with a score of 137-99. In the meet at St. Andrews, they also took the win with a score 212-48.

Freshman Sarah Morden broke the school record in the 200-yard Breaststroke by more than five seconds, then swam the second leg on the school record-breaking 400-yard Medley Relay team inside LRU's Shuford Center. The swimming team made it to the podium in nine of 10 events, including two individual event titles from both Megan Hunter and Ketlyn Rodriguez Matos, to pass both Pfeiffer and Sweet Briar in Merner Gymnasium. Newcomer Ketlyn Rodriguez Matos shattered her own record in the 200-yard Individual Medley and then teamed up with Jaycie Knight, Bianca Bateman and Natalia Sarmiento to do it again in the 400-yard Medley Relay at the Queens-hosted Fall Frenzy Invitational. Sarah Morden broke the program's record in the 100-yard Breaststroke by nearly two seconds, while both relay teams in the evening session established new school records as well, to highlight action for the swimming team on the second day of the Fall Frenzy. Freshman Ketlyn Rodriguez Matos staked claim to a pair of individual school records, while also contributing to another relay record, to help the swimming team wrap up a successful weekend at the Fall Frenzy. In their dominating 212-48 victory over St. Andrews, the team won 11 of the meet's 15 events and eclipsed six school records.



2019-2020 Swimming--Bianca Bateman, Nadia Bent, Jaiden Estrada, Natalie Ford, Ignayara Hernandez Martinez, Megan Hunter, Drew Keiski, Jaycie Knight, Trinity Mack, Mariel Mencia Martinez, Summer Miller, Sarah Morden, Alyssa Ramosbarbosa, Karina Ramosbarbosa, Ketlyn Rodriguez Matos, Natalia Sarmiento, Nathalia Silva, Mary Thorn, Jena Wise.

Drive To Succeed

The Women's Golf team was able to successfully participate and compete in eight tournaments over the 2019-2020 season, ending with a record of three tournaments in which they placed fifth overall or better and five tournaments where they placed sixth overall or under. The team faced much adversity starting in early March of 2020 due to the threat of Covid-19, which had a huge impact on not only the university but the entire nation. As a result of Covid-19, the golf team was unable to participate in their last three tournaments, including the Peach Belt Conference Championships.

The season highlight came at the Patsy Rendleman Invitational in Salisbury, where the women eclipsed the school's record, finishing in second place. Senior Katy Flax matched the school record with a 4-under-par 68 to key the record round of 288 for the team. Katy also matched her school record and finished just one stroke off the pace of a Catawba athlete. Sophomore Parker Melting worked her way into a five-way tie for sixth place, while freshman Elizabeth Ritchie made a big move up the leaderboard and finished in a tie for 11th place. Casey Burroughs turned in a 3-over-par 75 during the tournament which was good enough to move her into a seven-way tie for 23rd place. Amanda Hamrin shared 44th place with three other players while Samantha DeBusk, competing as an individual competitor, tied with 53rd place.





2019-20 Golf

Battle at Old South	5 th
Patsy Rendleman Invitational	2 nd
LeeAnn Noble Memorial	6 th
Jekyll-O-Lantern Intercollegiate	6 th
Lady Moc Classic	14 th
Battle at Hilton Head	10 th
Fujikura Invitational	9 th
Augustana Spring Fling	3 rd

2019-20 Women's Golf: Casey Burroughs, Samantha DeBusk, Katy [unclear], Meredith Godwin, Amanda Hamrin, Elizabeth Ritchie

Super Champs!

UNCP Wrestling went 14-9 in dual meets, placed first in the Mountain East Conference Championships, and ended their 2019-20 season by taking first place in the NCAA Super Region II Championships on February 29. The Braves did well in the Mount Olive Dual on November 24, winning 39-10 against the West Liberty Trojans; Garrett Hill toughed out a 3-2 win over West Liberty's Chance Morgan to give the Braves a comfortable lead. The team did great at Belmont Abbey on December 7, winning 33-6. During the Desert Dual in Las Vegas on December 22, the Braves won against Minot State and Vanguard, with Nick Daggett delivering a first-period pin in the opening match against Minot State. The team won 30-7 against Millersville at the Kutztown Duals on January 18, where Nick Kee walked away a champ on all four trips to the mat. When UNCP won the Mountain East Conference Championship in West Virginia on February 1, nine Braves picked up all-conference laurels from the league by virtue of top-3 finishes, including Jonathan Miller, Brandon Sloop, and Ryan Monk, who all finished runner-up.

After winning their last three duals, the Braves delivered a dominating performance to capture the NCAA Super Region II title on February 29; Nick Daggett, Logan Seliga, and Nick Kee all posted unblemished runs through their respective tournaments, while three of their teammates registered runner-up finishes. Their performances would have sent six Braves to the NCAA Division II Championships in Sioux Falls, SD, scheduled for March 13, the fourth straight year that UNCP has sent multiple qualifiers to the sport's biggest stage. But the Covid-19 pandemic intervened and the national championships were cancelled. Still, the Braves ended their abbreviated season as Super Region champs.

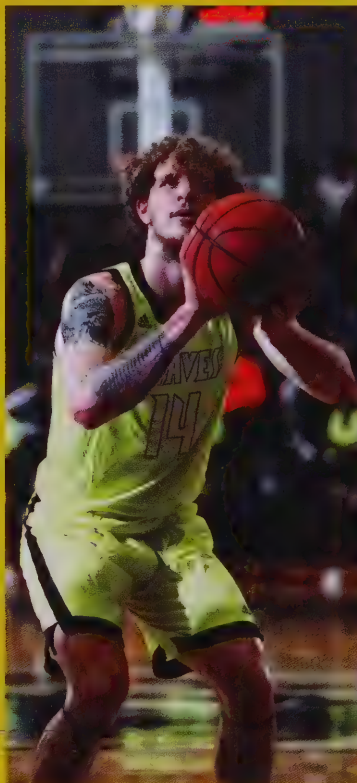


2019-20 Wrestling: Isaiah Antis, Joseph Ballantyne, Marcus Bell, Anthony Carter, Nick Daggett, Adrian Davenport, William Deese, Matt Eng, Joshua Feliz, Zane Fink, Nigel Freeman, Nathan Golmon, Garrett Hill, Ethan Hnasko, Mason Ingram, Jovaun Johnson, Nick Kee, James Langenfeld, Lucas Langford, Tyler Makosy, Luke McDonough, Jayquon McEntyre, Jonathan Miller, Ryan Monk, Marcus Montgomery, Josh Nesbitt, Cliff Owens, Joey Perez, Sammy Peticos, Matt Ross, Logan Seliga, Brandon Sloop, Josh Stewart, Massimo Sullivan, Taylor Thorn, Ernie Valentin, Rahsaan Vereen, Bryce Walker, Kaleb Warner



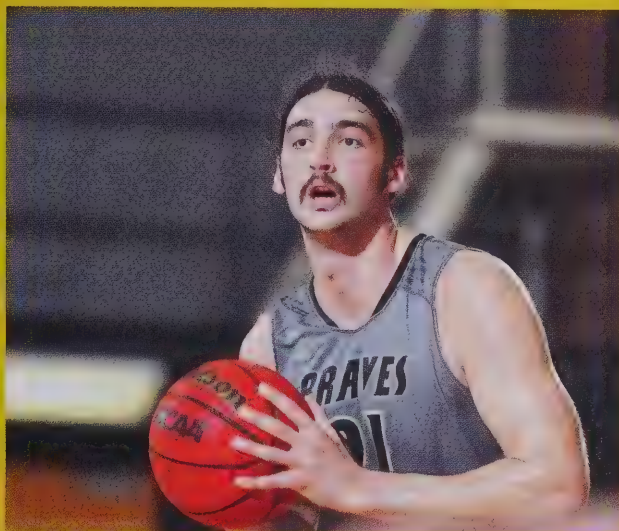
2019-20 Wrestling		
UNC		OPP.
12	Reinhardt	17
3	NC State	40
16	West Liberty	22
39	Mount Olive	10
20	Limestone	19
33	Belmont Abbey	6
20	Queens	15
18	Northern State	22
26	Minot State	12
12	Upper Iowa	26
32	Vanguard	9
19	Fort Hays State	24
10	Western Colorado	27
20	New Mexico Highlands	24
27	Colorado Mesa	17
19	Colorado State-Pueblo	18
30	Millersville	7
9	Pitt Johnstown	30
27	Kutztown	13
35	Shippensburg	15
43	Lander	0
60	Spartanburg Methodist	0
40	Davis & Elkins	6
Mountain East Conference Championships		1 st
NCAA Super Region II Championships		1 st

2019-20 Men's Basketball		
UNCP		OPP.
95	Catawba	90
73	Newberry	69
75	Winston-Salem State	64
81	Tusculum	79
78	Queens	80
80	Wingate	69
72	Mount Olive	74
86	Elizabeth City State	81
64	Georgia College	67
98	Clayton St.	74
76	North Georgia	46
107	Young Harris	88
91	Flagler	73
79	Columbus State	84
104	Lander	85
94	Augusta	56
79	USC Aiken	74
88	Georgia Southwestern	72
84	Francis Marion	70
85	Clayton State	74
93	Flagler	69
81	North Georgia	65
81	Lander	66
65	Augusta	75
109	USC Aiken	89
82	Columbus State	76
94	Francis Marion	60
88	Georgia Southwestern	65
90	North Georgia	62
87	Columbus	90



Hoops, Did It Again!

Men's Basketball ended 2019-2020 with an overall record of 24-6, including 11-2 in home games and 10-3 in away games. They had an amazing record of 17-3 in the conference. The team had a nine-game winning streak during the course of their season. A major win occurred when they defeated Augusta 94-56 at home on January 18th. In post-season play, the Braves defeated North Georgia by a 28-point margin in the quarterfinals of the Peach Belt Conference tournament. But their semifinal game against Columbus State was tied at the end of regulation, leading to an 87-90 overtime loss to close out their PBC season.



The team had to turn around on their way to play Catawba in Harrogate, TN, when the NCAA Southeast Regional Tournament, scheduled for March 14, was cancelled due to Covid-19. But there was still much to celebrate. Akia Pruitt was honored as the first ever in PBC history with 1,000 points scored and 1,000 rebounds. David Strother and Spencer Levi both hit 1,000 points. Tyrell Kirk became First Team All-Peach Belt Conference, Jordan Ratliffe became Third Team All-Peach Belt Conference, and Tony Jones was awarded Coach of the Year.



2019-2020 Men's Basketball: Jabrie Bullard, Micah Kinsey, David Strother, Chris Hill, Akia Pruitt, Cortez Marion-Holmes, Tyrell Kirk, Jordan Ratliffe, Spencer Levi, Carson Mounce, Shaun Kirk, Dewan Lesesne, Jace Mckenney, Jelal Williams, Jayvian Hicks

Shooting for Success!

Coach John Haskins had high praise for the 2019-20 women's basketball team, which ended the season at 11-17. The Lady Braves won 7-5 games at home. They also placed 6-14 in the conference. The team's inside dominance produced 49 rebounds and 26 points in the paint and keyed a 66-49 victory over Southern Wesleyan at the Peach Belt Conference/Conference Carolinas Challenge. The UNC Pembroke women scored 15 points off of 14 Fayetteville State turnovers and got 27 points from its bench to fuel a 63-60 victory over Fayetteville State. It was the fifth straight home win for the Braves in the 34-game-old series with the Lady Broncos that dates back to the 1975-76 campaign.

In March 2020, the sports seasons were brought to a halt due to the impact of the coronavirus, but some good things have prevailed through the pandemic. Head Coach John Haskins promoted fourth-year assistant coach Kendra Samuels-Eaton to associate head coach. Coach Haskins said, "Kendra has been a vital asset to our women's basketball program over the last three years," Haskins said. "She has an outstanding work ethic and leadership skills and her role has expanded each year. I am excited that she has agreed to accept the role of associate head coach."



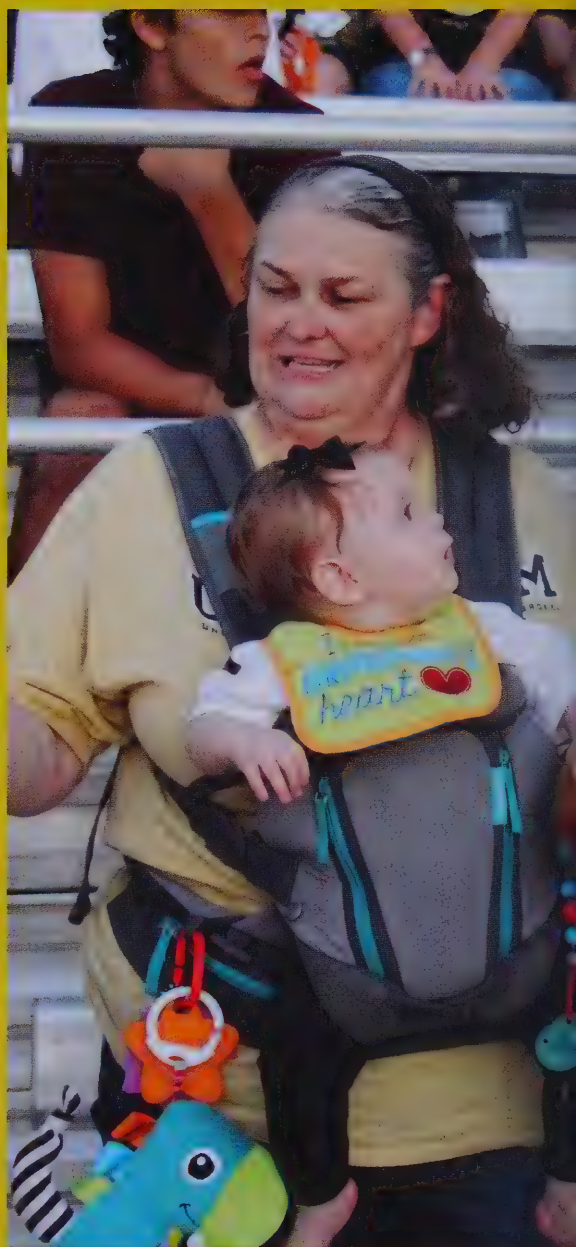
2019-2020 Women's Basketball: Aniah McManus, Naomi Gilbert, Treycie Ford, Jillian Ebron, Courtney Smith, Shaniya Lester, Alcenia Purnell, Tee Graham, Jatyra Moore-Peterson, Deja McCain, Melanie Horne, Tiara Williams, Danielle Heath, Aliyah Farmer, Diamond Fedrick

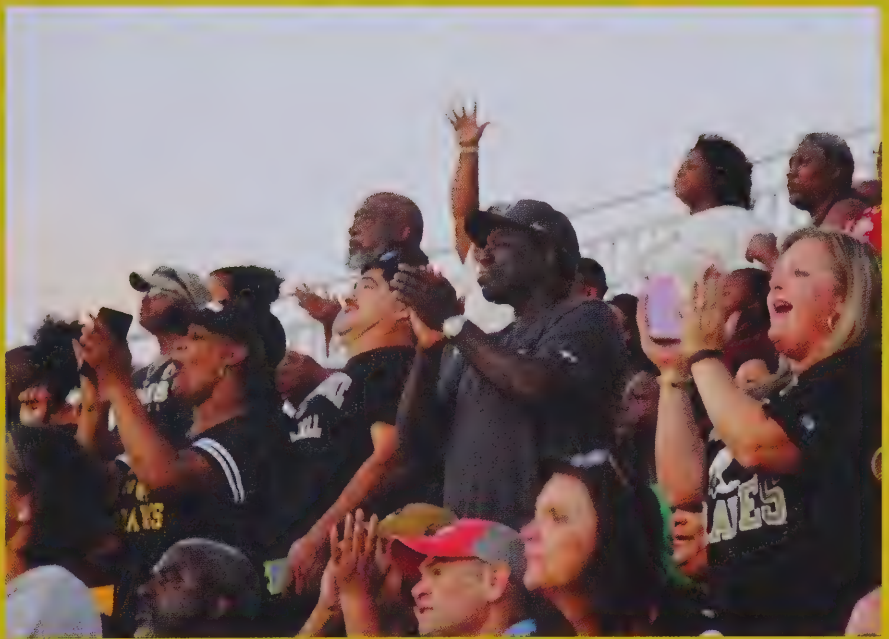


2019-2020 Women's Basketball		
UNCP		OPP.
66	Southern Wesleyan	49
39	Barton	65
63	Fayetteville State	60
65	Lenoir-Rhyne	56
41	Wingate	60
63	Saint Augustine's	58
55	Chowan	51
44	Coastal Carolina	86
59	Georgia College	51
67	Clayton State	81
45	North Georgia	59
39	Young Harris	55
58	Flagler	66
52	Columbus State	64
56	Lander	67
71	Augusta	55
72	USC Aiken	69
55	Georgia Southwestern	60
62	Francis Marion	44
47	Clayton State	58
58	Flagler	54
62	North Georgia	66
59	Lander	76
63	Augusta	69
77	USC Aiken	71
48	Columbus State	57
55	Francis Marion	66
64	Georgia Southwestern	73

Supporting Players

Fans of all ages come out season after season to support our student athletes and root for another win for the Braves. Also contributing to the excitement and spirit of each sporting event are the students who lead the cheers and provide the soundtrack as members of the spirit squad, the marching band and drill team at football games, the pep band at basketball games, and the ever-popular BraveHawk mascot. When sports were suspended in March of 2020 due to Covid-19, all of these supporting players had their seasons shortened, too. And all were eagerly awaiting the time when they could return to the stadium or the court and cheer UNCP on to victory again. Go Braves!





Short but Sweet

UNCP Softball had a stellar record in 2020 with 13 wins in its belt, 11 of them at home, during an abbreviated 22-game season. The Lady Braves had originally been slated to play 54 games, but unfortunately, due to Covid-19, half of those games were at first postponed and then eventually canceled. With an overall record of 13-9, UNCP finished with an impressive .519 winning percentage.

There were many standout moments throughout the season. The second game with Mount Olive on March 4 concluded with a 9-1 victory in UNCP's favor. This was followed by two wins against Fayetteville State in what turned out to be the last games of the shortened season, extending UNCP's winning streak over the Lady Broncos to 16 games over the years. Another wipeout for the team was the 8-0 game against Barton on February 6. However, there were also nail biters that came down to the wire, like the close game against Limestone on February 28, which UNCP won by just one run, 8-7. The Girls in Gold never ceased to amaze with their abilities in the trying times of the Spring 2020 Semester and kept their spirits high till the end.



2020 Softball: Mary Sells, Makenna Sibbett, Abby White, Carson Powell, Lauren Hilbourn, Raygan Larson, Kaci Roberson, Jordan Hall, Lauren Baker, Jordan Adcox, Alex Watkins, Lily Schroeder, Tatum Brummitt, Rendi Wetherington, Anna King, Lauren Gammons, Emily Biddle, Mackenzie Collins, Madison Dyson, Conner Brisson, Ryann Breault



2020 Softball

7	Kutztown	4
6	Kutztown	5
5	West Virginia State	1
3	West Virginia State	4
3	Chowan	5
3	Chowan	1
2	Newberry	10
6	Newberry	12
0	Queens	5
1	Queens	3
1	Catawba	3
2	Catawba	7
8	West Virginia Tech	0
4	West Virginia Tech	1
6	Barton	3
8	Barton	0
7	Limestone	2
8	Limestone	7
3	Mount Olive	12
9	Mount Olive	1
5	Fayetteville State	0
5	Fayetteville State	1

2020 Baseball

UNCP		OPP.
5	Shepard	2
2	Shepard	4
10	Shepard	3
13	Queens	3
3	Lock Haven	4
13	Lock Haven	2
18	Lock Haven	4
14	Chowan	3
1	Columbus State	8
6	Columbus State	11
8	Columbus State	5
7	Barton	8
9	USC Aiken	2
5	USC Aiken	4
11	USC Aiken	10
30	Clafin	0
10	Clafin	1
26	Clafin	1
20	Barton	6
7	Young Harris	4
17	Young Harris	9
10	Young Harris	1
4	Wingate	1





Home Run Braves!

The Baseball Braves ended their abbreviated 2020 season with 18 wins against 5 losses, for an outstanding winning percentage of .783; they also went 10-2 in conference games. The team started their season off with a 7-5 record before going on an 11-game winning streak, which included a clutch 5-4 victory in the second game of their double header against USC Aiken at home on February 22. Ethan Baucom's two-out single in the bottom of the 13th inning brought home the winning run for the Braves and brought the fans at Sammy Cox Field to their feet. Their winning streak came to an end after a 4-1 win against Wingate on March 10; the rest of the season was canceled due to Covid-19.

When the pandemic shut down everyone's season, it gave the players a physical and mental break from the sport so they could focus on their schoolwork and prepare for a great upcoming season in 2021.



2020 Baseball: J.J. Oxendine, Bucky Bonyng, Zach Ghelfi, Gage Hammonds, Trevor Clemons, Jalen Scott, Wellington Guzman, Brennen Hogan, Jarratt Mobley, Landen Smith, River Ryan, Brandon Winstead, Ethan Baucom, Bobby Dixon, Randy Floyd, Tanner Routh, Jake Mayhew, Darren Bowen, Ted McNeill, R.J. Vanvickle, Davis Hurd, Alex Simpson, Dylan Radford, Tyler Bowen, James Johnson, Joey DelGatto, Quin Ferguson, Connor Grainger, Garrett Littleton, Jacob Morrison, Justin Bowers, Spencer Faulkner, Chase Jernigan, Mason Stickney, Austin Bass, Landen Harris, Isaiah Thomas, William Glazebrook

Run, Braves, Run!

The 2019-2020 Track and Field season kicked off with the start of indoor competition, and Erman Jepleting and Joshua Chepkesir were named MEC Indoor Track and Field Athletes of the Week on December 10, 2019 at the JDL Fast Track in Winston Salem. Chepkesir and Jepleting and their teammates accomplished records and personal bests during the indoor season, which ended with the Braves finishing in second place and the Lady Braves taking first place at the Mountain East Conference Indoor Championships on February 22, 2020. Both teams finished first at the Braves Track Classic on March 6 to start the outdoor season, but the remaining meets were canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. When asked how he felt about the short season, track team member Orlandus Diontay said, "I think it was pluses and negatives. I knew that everyone was prepared to compete for outdoor and it hurt to know that the sport I love was canceled, but it was good to know that we got to receive an extra year of eligible. Another plus was the fact that we're only going to get better so we would be stronger for the season. I think Covid gave the team more drive." Even though the team only got to compete for one meet in the 2020 outdoor season, they were looking forward to the next indoor season.

The Men's and Women's Cross Country teams did exceptionally well in their 2020 season. Both the men's and women's team placed 3rd in the Peach Belt Conference Championship. Unfortunately, due to the ongoing Covid pandemic, the NCAA D2 National Championships were canceled. The Braves wasted no time and continued to practice; you could usually see multiple members running around campus daily. Even though the Braves' season was cut short they welcomed new team members Jack Phieffer and Christian Whiteside to the men's team, along with several honors and awards. One member in particular on the Men's team gained a lot of attention by receiving the USTFCCCA National Athlete of the Week; Joshua Chepkesir placed first in every meet he was a part of in the 20-21 season. This earned him the title of the PBC Runner of The Year. Four athletes made All Peach Belt Conference: Valary Samoei, Kathryn Anderson, Joshua Chepkesir, and Ean Ormsby. The Braves broke records such as the Men's 8K time by Joshua Chepkesir as well as the Women's 5K time by Valary Samoei and Kathryn Anderson at the PBC Championship. The Braves were in the spotlight not only for their track times but also for their academics. Joshua Chepkesir, Tirus Kirwa, Hunter Levy, Ean Ormsby, and Deslin Burkhart along with Sam Badami, Erman Jepleting, Shelby McMurray and Valary Samoei all received the PBC Team of Academic Distinction award. The awards did not stop there; the Women's Sam Badami and the Men's Deslin Burkhart received the PBC All-Sportsmanship Team award. Newcomer Jack Phieffer also received the PBC Freshman of The Year award.



2020 Cross Country	
Women	
Braves Twilight	1 st
Royals Challenge	2 nd
Tom Scott Open	1 st
PBC Championship	3 rd
Men	
Braves Twilight	1 st
Royals Challenge	4 th
Tom Scott Open	2 nd
PBC Championship	3 rd





2020 Cross Country

Men

Delsin Burkhart
Joshua Chepkosir
Silus Kipkoech
Tirus Kirwa
Hunter Levy
Adam Lindee
Holden Newman
Ean Ormsby
Jack Phieffer
Christian Whiteside

Women

Kathryn Anderson
Riley Axe
Sam Badami
Erman Jepletting
Brookelyn Johnson
Jazmine Lorenzo
Molly McCann
Shelby McMurray
Corey Pethers
Alycia Richardson
Valary Samoei



2019-2020 Women's Track & Field

Kathryn Anderson
Alycia Artman
Riley Axe
Deja Aycock
Sam Badami
Britney Chambers
Micaiah Darity
Breze Ervin
Raigan Evans
Caroline Flax
Quanterra Harrison
Aly Hudspeth

Leisha Jackson
Erman Jeping
Brookelyn Johnson
Jazmine Lorenzo
Lillian Marino
Ebin Matthews
Dy'Air McCormick
Taya McKeithan
Shelby McMurray
Corey Pethers
Keionna Ray
Alayna Richardson

Alycia Richardson
Ja'Elle Ross-Brown
Mikela Salome
Valary Samoei
Brianna Sanders
Saniya Smith
Azariah Stewart
Shadawnya The
Liz Whitmore
Kaylyn Williams

2019-2020 Men's Track and Field

Cassius Adams
Jamar Adams
Assad Alston
Jarett Arabie
Caleb Bladwin
Brandon Boyles
Kendrick Britton
Delsin Burkhart
Joshua Chepkosir
Preston Coker
Caleb Coles
Mason Crawford
Isaiah Daniel
Deangelo Davis
Jathan Deberry
Marques Dewberry

Dai-shon Donald
Darrin Elmore
Dominic Foy
Kobe Funderburk
Orlandus Gamble
Riley Gokey
Jeffrey Gunter
Curtis Hairston
Silus Kipkoech
Tirus Kirwa
Terrence Lackey
Justice Leak
Hunter Levy
Adam Lindee
Vinson Logan
Walker Mabe

Mat Maier
Juman Manley
Hunter March
Cody Miller
Holden Newman
Ean Ormsby
Farrest Powell
Alex Quillan
Tadzh Small
Ryan Smith
Bradley Thompson
Andrew Whitaker
Adam White
Elijah Woods

On Course

The highlight of the golf team's 2020-21 season came when freshman Toni Blackwell carded a 17-over-par 161 in two rounds of competition to finish at the top of the individual leaderboard at the Mars-Hill-hosted Spring Diamondback Intercollegiate on February 22-23 and help UNCP to its only tournament victory of the season. Blackwell, who shot a team-best 77 in round two, finished just two strokes ahead of teammate Elizabeth Ritchie, who claimed a runner-up finish; Georgia Page shot an 8-over-par 80 on the final day of competition which was good enough for a third place finish. Redshirt sophomores Amanda Hamrin and Samantha DeBusk finished in a tie for fourth place, while freshman Madison Deese finished in eighth place. The Lady Braves competed in five other tournaments and closed out their season with a sixth-place finish at the Peach Belt Conference Championship in St. Augustine, FL, on April 17-18.



2020-21 Golf: Samantha DeBusk, Madison Deese, Amanda Hamrin, Georgia Page, Elizabeth Ritchie, Toni Blackwell

2020-2021 Golf

LeeAnn Noble Memorial	7 th
Flagler Fall Slam	5 th
Savannah Lakes Invitational	T-4 th
Spring Diamondback Intercollegiate	1 st
Low Tide Intercollegiate	7 th
Lady Bearcat Invitational	12 th
Peach Belt Conference Championships	6 th



2020-2021 Swimming: Bianca Bateman, Nadia Bent, Caterina Coughlin, Madeline Everhart, Jaycie Knight, Gillian Manning, Mencia Martinez, Anna Miller, Sarah Morden, Sara Ormsby, Ket Rodriguez Matos, Natalia Sarmiento, Paige Seplak, Nathalia Silva, Sierra Wright



2020-2021 Swimming

132	Converse	66
73	Queens	120
175	Catawba	64
176	Lenoir-Rhyne	79
81	Wingate	181
EC January Invitational		1 st
Emmanuel Senior Winter Meet		1 st
133	Chowan	69
115	Campbell	141
Royal Open		NTS
NCAA Championships		NTS
GMAC/MEC Championships		NTS



Live to Swim, Swim to Live

The Swimming team had an overall record of a 4-3 for their 2020-2021 season. The Lady Braves started off strong at the season opener in November against Converse College, winning 132-66. They then took a two-month hiatus from competition before resuming their 2020-21 slate on January 7 at the Queens Tri-Meet. During their hiatus, the team kept training. Due to Covid-19, precautions were put into place for the team, and members and staff would regularly get tested before practice and team workouts. The Braves are no strangers to breaking records, and this year's team was no exception. Many school records have been broken this season. These events included the 50, 100 and 200-yard freestyle, the 200 backstroke, 100 breaststroke, 100 and 200 butterfly, 200 IM, 200 Free Relay and 200 Medley Relay. Newcomer Gillian Manning broke over seven of the school records during the season, some being records that she set in previous meets. Manning registered her eighth school record of the season in an individual event, this time eclipsing her own week-old school record in the 100-yard Freestyle. Manning took top honors in three events including the 100 and 200-yard freestyle, as well as the 200-yard Butterfly. These accomplishments led her to be chosen as the Mountain East Conference Winner of the Week. Manning alongside her teammates Mariel Mencia Martinez, Paige Spelak, and Kethlyn Rodriguez also all broke individual time records in various events during this season. During their last meet, the Lady Braves came away with a 115-141 loss against Campbell University. The team then took a three-week hiatus from competition before resuming the regular season portion of their 2020-21 schedule at the Royal Open. In mid-March, they traveled to Birmingham, AL, for the NCAA Championships. They ended their post-season with an impressive third-place showing at the GMAC/MEC Championships in Canton, OH, on March 31-April 2.

Six and Done

Men's basketball played only the first six games of their 2020-21 season, ending with a record of 3-3 and 3-2 in conference play. On February 8, university athletics officials announced that a majority of the student-athletes on the men's basketball team decided to opt out of countable athletic-related activity (CARA) for the remainder of the 2020-21 season due to Covid-19 concerns. Their decisions left the Braves unable to field a full squad that would be able to endure the rigors of the remainder of the competition season. According to a statement provided by UNCP athletics director Dick Christy, "We are going to work to provide a safe and competitive outlet this season as long as it is the students who are energized and interested in pursuing such amid the Covid-19 pandemic. Our student-athletes in men's basketball made their voices heard yesterday, and we respect their decision and will continue to stand behind their efforts toward academic success this semester." And men's basketball coach Drew Richards added, "This season has been an especially taxing experience, both physically and mentally, on and off of the court. We are thankful and extremely proud of how our players have handled the last four months, and will, without a doubt, have them ready and excited to compete in 2021-22."

Due to the ongoing concerns regarding Covid-19, the NCAA directed all member institutions to provide student-athletes with an option to opt out of athletics participation. UNCP Athletics has supported the decisions of any individual student-athletes who wish to opt out this year, and the department continued that support with the men's basketball team. Student-athletes who opt out of their respective competition seasons due to Covid-19 concerns will be able to keep their scholarships per an NCAA mandate announced last year. The NCAA also announced in December that winter sport student-athletes who compete during the 2020-2021 academic year will receive an additional season of competition through a waiver approved by the Division 2 Management Council.





2021 Men's Basketball

67	Belmont Abbey	68
93	Clayton State	72
91	Columbus State	72
80	Flagler	87 (OT)
74	Georgia College	76
82	Francis Marion	80



2020-2021 Men's Basketball: Trenton MacIntyre, Jordan McNiell, Malik Sanders, Chris Hill, Mark McLauren, Cortez Marion-Holmes, Tyrell Kirk, Jordan Ratliffe, Ty Hurst, Aiden McLaurin, Spencer Levi, Nate Dunlop, Tyre Boykin, Dewan Lesesne, Jelal Williams, Kenny Scott, Jayvian Hicks

Jump Shot

Women's Basketball was able to compete in 17 games over the 2020-2021 season. The team faced much adversity due to the threat of Covid-19 and ended with only 3 wins during the shortened season, but every appearance on the court was an accomplishment, regardless of the final score. The first major highlight of the season came at home against Georgia College on January 24, where the team shot better than 40 percent in the second half. This limited Georgia College to 28 percent shooting to secure a 53-50 victory over the Bobcats. Gabby Smith scored a team-high 11 points while Alcenia Purnell added eight points. Aaliyah Bell logged a career-high five rebounds. In February, the Lady Braves won both their games against Augusta, a thrilling 61-60 overtime victory at home and a two-point 50-48 win on the road.



2020-2021 Women's Basketball

Aniah McManus
Naomi Gilbert
Kelci Adams
Courtney Smith
Aaliyah Bell
Alcenia Purnell
JaTyra Moore-Peterson
Jadin Gladden

Kelly Luck
Tiara Williams
Hannah Russell
Danielle Heath
Diamond Fedrick
Gabby Smith
Malia Poirrier



2020-21 Women's Basketball

UNCP		OPP.
51	Augusta	77
59	Coastal Carolina	67
60	Coastal Carolina	66
58	Clayton State	82
71	Columbus State	75
53	Georgia College	50
52	USC Aiken	65
53	#3 Lander	91
54	#15 North Georgia	87
39	Young Harris	55
61	Augusta	60
72	Francis Marion	79
66	Flagler	70
65	Flagler	69
66	#2 Lander	76
50	Augusta	48
58	Francis Marion	80



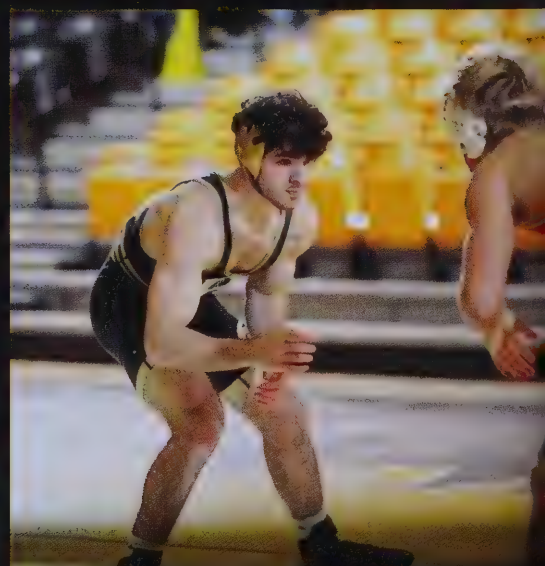
2020-2021 Wrestling

26	Belmont Abbey	16
41	Emmanuel	4
47	Allen	3
32	King	9
38	Queens	9
Mountain East Conference Championships		2nd
26	Limestone	14
28	Lander	6
NCAA Super Region II Championships		2nd
NCAA Championships		19th



2020-2021 Wrestling

Marcus Bell	Ethan Hnasko	Diego Santiago
Nathan Buchanan	Jovaun Johnson	Thomas Schock
Loye Burkhead	Will Lowery	Shylik Scriven
Anthony Carter	Braxton May-Nicholson	Logan Seliga
Nick Daggett	Chaise Mayer	Joe Sipper
Christian Decatur	Luke McDonough	Brandon Smith
William Deese	Ryan Monk	Garrett Steele
Matt Engel	Josh Nesbitt	Massimo Sullivan
Joshua Feliz	Joey Perez	Abraham Vargas-Perez
Nathan Golman	Sammy Peticos	Alberto Vargas-Perez
Caleb Grau	Austin Pompa	Rahsaan Vereen
Garret Hill	Matt Ross	Bryce Walker





Well Matched

In their final home appearances of the 2020-21 campaign, the wrestling team combined to tally 30 takedowns and six near falls on the way to claiming 15 of the 20 individual matchups on the night, and the Braves cruised to wins over both Limestone and Lander on February 11. The Black & Gold topped the Saints, 26-14, to start the day, before dispelling of the Bearcats, 28-6. The Black & Gold opened the day with wins in each of its first two bouts with Limestone (3-4), but the Saints got on the board via Majid Corbit's third-period pin in the 141-pound matchup that cut the hosts advantage on the team scoreboard in half. John Burger helped the Saints cut into the lead again with a pin at 157 pounds, but the Braves captured four of the last five individual matchups, including a big 3-1 decision by Jovaun Johnson at 184 pounds. UNCP won each of the first six individual matchups in its nightcap with Lander (5-3), and eventually built a 19-0 advantage following a 14-6 major decision by freshman Caleb Grau at 165 pounds. Tenth-ranked Jack Bond got the Bearcats on the board with a 5-4 decision in his 174-pound contest with Garrett Hill, but the hosts closed it out with two more wins, including a third-period pin from 11th-ranked Ryan Monk in the heavyweight bout.

The Braves then ventured into the postseason when they headed to Franklin Springs, GA, on February 27 for the NCAA Super Regional II Tournament at Emmanuel College's Shaw Athletic Center. Junior Nick Daggett and seniors Luke McDonough and Ryan Monk each registered unblemished runs through their respective weight classes to lead the way for the 24th-ranked UNCP wrestling team's run to a second-place finish, falling just short of last year's top spot. The postseason culminated at the NCAA Division II Championships in St. Louis on March 12-13, where the Braves finished 19th. All-American Nick Daggett toughed out a 6-5 decision over 11th-ranked Christian Mejia of McKendree in the semifinals but had his quest for a national championship stopped with a loss to fifth-ranked Cole Laya of West Liberty in the title bout.



Alive and Kickin'

Soccer is usually a fall sport, but the ongoing threat of Covid-19 shifted the Lady Braves' 2020-21 schedule to the Spring 2021 semester. Despite the disruption in its routine, the team was able to successfully complete their 11-game season with an overall record of 6 wins against 4 losses; their game against Lander on March 28 ended in a tie after two overtime periods.

The team's first win of the season came on February 8 in a game hosted by Georgia Southwestern. Rilee Seering netted two goals within 66 seconds of each other in the first half to help UNCP to a 2-0 victory. The Braves did not allow a shot in the first half. Chiara Coppin faced two shots and recorded two saves. The Lady Braves went on to win 5 more games, including two in double-overtime over Francis Marion and Clayton State, before a loss to Flagler in the Peach Belt Conference Tournament brought this challenging season to a close.

2020-2021 Soccer

UNCP		OPP.
0	North Georgia	1
2	Georgia Southwestern	0
2	Francis Marion	1
4	Young Harris	0
2	Georgia College	1
1	Columbus State	3
3	USC Aiken	0
1	Clayton State	0
1	Lander	1
0	Flagler	2
1	Flagler	2





2020 Soccer

Anna Bass
Chiara Coppin
Alexis Pittman
Rilee Seering
Zion Sellers
Maddison Oxendine
Anna Grossheim
Lorena Montesano
Madison Hoopers
Maya Grimes
Fernanda Araya

Morgan Hill
Abigail Lowry
Brianna De Coteau
Nona Borden
Ilaya Bigford
Kennedy Rucker
Naomi Fountain
Nicole Cook
Ana Da Costa
Nuwadee Pramnak
Gracie Abalos-McManus



2020-2021 Football

UNCP		OPP.
30	Glennville State	7
48	West Virginia State	21
24	Charleston	12
28	Frostburg State	40

2020-2021 Volleyball

UNCP		OPP.
3	Georgia College	1
1	USC Aiken	3
3	Augusta	1
3	Francis Marion	1
2	Georgia College	3
0	Flagler	3
3	Lander	0
3	Young Harris	0
0	USC Aiken	3
0	Augusta	3
3	Francis Marion	0
1	Flagler	3
2	Lander	3
3	Young Harris	0
0	Flagler	3

2020-2021 Volleyball

Ashley Caesar	Kassandra Sturges
Katie Pressley	Elise Martin
Katelyn West	Erin O'Donnell
Brianna Warren	Taylor Osborne
Hope Turbyfill	Kalia Crowder
April Tankersley	Shannon Skyrd
Marissa Morgan	Elly Hicks
Morgan Gibbs	





Fall into Spring

Football and volleyball both had their Fall 2020 seasons postponed until Spring 2021 due to Covid-19 precautions. The football team opened its season on the road on March 13 with a 30-7 win against Glenville State. The home opener scheduled for the following week fell through when WV Wesleyan was unable to play, so the Braves returned to the road for a 48-21 win over West Virginia State on March 20. Their final road trip ended in a 24-42 loss to Charleston on March 27. After another cancellation on April 10, the Braves finally returned to Grace P. Johnson Stadium to face Frostburg State on April 17, the first home football game for UNCP in more than 500 days. The Braves racked up more than 440 yards of total offense, including a season-high 178 on the ground, but visiting Frostburg State got four field goals from Dayne Kootz and pounced on a blocked punt for a touchdown late in the third quarter to key a 40-28 win for the Bobcats. The setback marked the end of a .500 spring campaign.

The volleyball team opened with a 3-1 win over Georgia College at home on March 8, the first of five home wins during their abbreviated spring season. They added two more wins on the road, including a 3-0 victory over Young Harris in their final game of the regular season on April 17, to finish at 7-8 overall and 7-7 in conference play. Their final match came in the semifinal round of the PBC Tournament on April 21 against top-seeded Flagler. The UNCP women threw everything on the table in their battle with the Peach Belt Conference regular season champion, but the Saints used late rallies in both the second and third sets to finish off a 3-0 (20-25, 22-25, 22-25) sweep of the short-handed Lady Braves. The setback put the wraps on an abbreviated, but memorable, season for UNC Volleyball, who matched its best win total in league play in more than two decades with their April 17 victory at Young Harris.

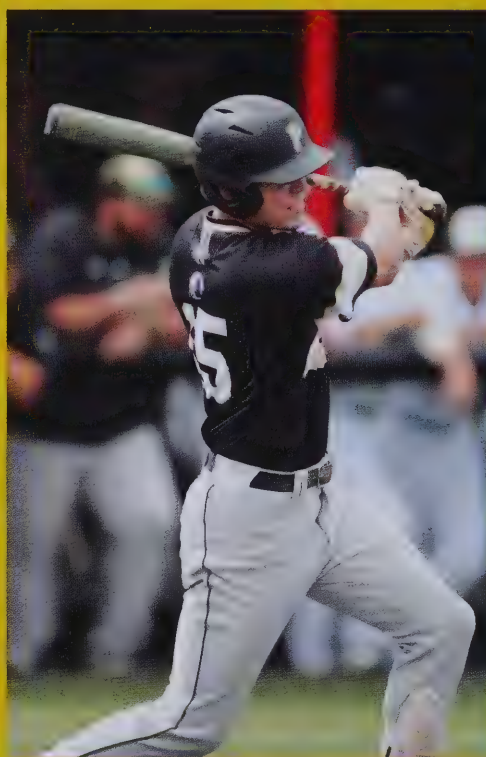
2020-2021 Football

Price	DeAngelo Blair-Young	Rivera	Keith Quick	Benari Black
Ammond Hicks	Travis Prince	Noah Whitekettle	Reuben Willis	Trent Brown
Alvarado	Virgil Lemons	Masanka Kanku	Ethan Ryan	Shawn Ham
n Hill	Sam Vines	Cam Lowery	Jai'Veon Smalls	Paulvin Horton
eph Early	Jayce Allen	C.J. Foxx	C.J. Davis	Osa Idehen
es Saxton	Luke Brooks	Devin Higgins	Tyshon Houston	Ian Jackson
n Johnson	Cam Caldron	Ben Jaramillo	Trey Bell	Matt Jones
ney Smith	Leonard Mosley	Trey Sawyer	Colin Abney	Darryll Malachi
n Jones	Amari Brice-Greene	Kaceion Williams	Faheem Diaab	Nick Minacapelli
n Jones	Quentin Cooper	Ryan Walkins	Thatcher Tillet	Connor Mort
Dixon	Evan VanMeter	Nick Anderson	Adonai Aloma	Bo Osborne
n Brown	Raeshawn Griffin	Christian Coleman	Kaleb Baker	D.J. Parker
awn Carter	Marcus Bland	William Cross	Branden Spencer	Jaden RichesonW
elo Cromwell	Cameron Goins	Dylan Best	Caleb Lowery	Jateh Storr
hael Clark	Alex Hodge	Timon McMillan	Octavis McLaurin	Jack U'Ren
n Jones	Austin Chavis	Carson Sams	Taye Vereen	Wendell Wheeler
ate Bowlding	Brandon Wood-Potter	Gage Baldwin	Isaiah Robinson	Joshua Williams
on Jolly	Collin Williams	Jameson Stallings	Tyreke King	Benjamin Willis
id Salser	Mykah Stone	Preston Wise	Zechariah	Tyion Wright
lan Howard	Gerardo Guerra	Jonnie Varga	Adams-Duckson	



2021 Baseball

UNCP		OPP
8	Barton	2
17	Barton	2
7	USC Aiken	5
3	USC Aiken	4
4	USC Aiken	12
22	Clafin	3
15	Clafin	11
14	Clafin	4
7	Catawba	12
6	Young Harris	2
7	Young Harris	6
3	Young Harris	7
4	Wingate	16
10	Georgia College	1
6	Georgia College	5
11	Georgia College	5
2	Wingate	1
4	Georgia Southwestern	0
4	Georgia Southwestern	2
5	Georgia Southwestern	4
8	Barton	2
10	Lander	5
15	Lander	14
17	Lander	4
7	Augusta	4
14	Augusta	3
19	Augusta	3
13	Francis Marion	5
18	Francis Marion	4
7	Francis Marion	8
10	North Georgia	8
9	North Georgia	4
11	North Georgia	9
2	Catawba	12
3	Flagler	5
3	Flagler	11
1	Flagler	11
5	Columbus State	3
9	Columbus State	7
4	Columbus State	9
3	Columbus State	7
10	Columbus State	14
6	Mount Olive	7
2	Columbus State	8





Diamond Days

UNCP baseball had an awesome season in 2021, ending with 29 wins against 15 losses overall. Their record in the Peach Belt Conference was even better, 25-8, for a .758 winning percentage in conference play. The Braves opened the season at home on February 10, taking both games of a double header against Barton. On February 20, the team traveled to USC Aiken for their first conference game, which they won 7-5 in 12 innings. Although they lost both ends of the double header the next day, they had better luck at Claflin College on February 26-27, winning all three games against this conference rival, starting with a 22-3 blowout.

Wins continued to outnumber losses throughout March and April, including three-game sweeps against Georgia College, Georgia Southwestern, Lander, Augusta, and North Georgia. But after winning two of their three games at home against Columbus State to close out the regular season, their luck changed. On May 8-9, the Braves faced Columbus State again in the semifinals of the Peach Belt Conference Tournament but lost two games in the best-of-three series. They came up one run short against Mount Olive in the first round of the NCAA Southeast Regional and ended the postseason with another loss to Columbus State in the elimination game of that tournament. Despite these disappointments, the Braves can be proud of their outstanding performance during the regular season.



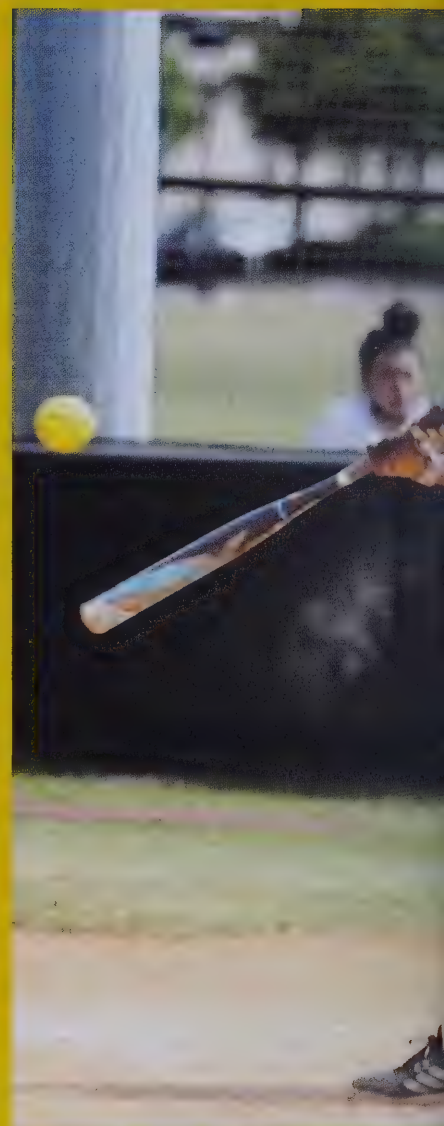
2021 Baseball—J.J. Oxendine, Bucky Bonyng, Ramsey Petty, Gage Hammonds, Trevor Clemons, Jalen Scott, Wellington Guzman, Christian Jayne, Joel Tarrh, Landen Smith, River Ryan, Brandon Winstead, Bobby Dixon, Randy Floyd, Tanner Routh, Jake Mayhew, Matt Kelley, Darren Bowen, Connor Cox, Grant Elliott, Jake Inman, Timmy Felder, James Johnson, Matthew Chisum, Branden Kunz, Garrett Littleton, Jacob Morrison, Zachary Long, Spencer Faulkner, Chase Jernigan, Landen Harris, Isaiah Thomas

Catch the Spirit!

UNCP Softball had a winning season in 2021, producing 26 wins against 13 losses overall, with a 16-6 record in conference games. Although some games were canceled, including the double header with traditional rival Fayetteville State originally slated for March 4, the Lady Braves were back in the swing of things, returning to a much fuller schedule after their shortened season in 2020.

Among their conference wins were a 5-1 defeat of USC Aiken on March 25 and an 11-2 victory over Georgia College on April 2. The Lady Braves won their last four games of the regular season, two at home against Lander on April 30 and two at Augusta on May 2, before losing to Young Harris in the semifinals of the Peach Belt Tournament, their only postseason appearance.

After their successful season, six members of the 2021 team were honored as Eastern/NFCA All American Scholar-Athletes: Jordan Adcox, Alex Watkins, Lauren Baker, Emily Biddle, Conner Brisson, and Carley Dawson.



2021 Softball—Mary Sells, MaKenna Sibbett, Abby White, Carson Powell, Lauren Hilbourn, Raygan Larson, Kaci Roberson, Jordan Ha Lauren Baker, Jordan Adcox, Alex Watkins, Lily Schroeder, Tatum Brummitt, Rendi Wetherington, Anna King, Lauren Gammons, Em Biddle, Mackenzie Collins, Madison Dyson, Conner Brisson, Ryann Breault



2021 Softball

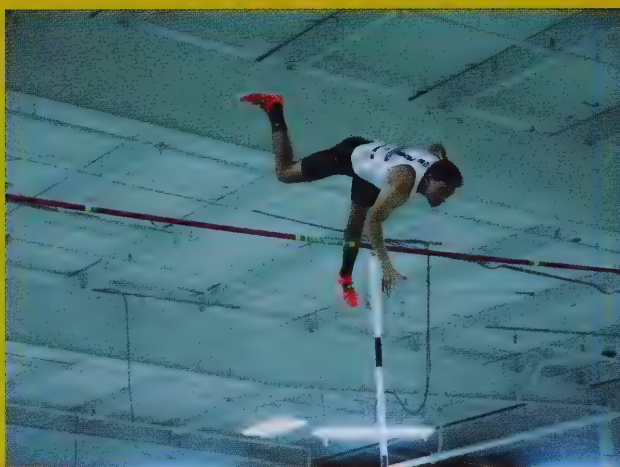
UNCP		OPP.
5	Queens	0
4	Queens	2
5	Lenoir-Rhyne	6
6	Lenoir-Rhyne	10
3	Barton	1
5	Barton	2
3	Limestone	8
6	Limestone	2
6	Converse	1
3	Converse	0
9	Coker	1
3	Coker	6
9	Methodist	0
11	Methodist	3
9	Mount Olive	6
3	Mount Olive	12
3	Catawba	1
2	Catawba	4
5	USC Aiken	1
3	USC Aiken	13
11	Georgia College	2
4	Georgia College	2
3	Flagler	2
10	Flagler	1
9	Francis Marion	4
6	Francis Marion	4
3	Columbus State	10
2	Columbus State	0
0	Georgia Southwestern	4
5	Georgia Southwestern	2
4	Young Harris	7
8	Young Harris	3
0	North Georgia	8
2	North Georgia	14
7	Lander	0
4	Lander	3
9	Augusta	0
6	Augusta	2
3	Young Harris	7

Fast Track

Track and Field competed in four indoor meets during January and February 2021 and closed out their indoor season at the Conference Carolinas Indoor Championships on February 22, where the women took first place and the men's team finished third. Their outdoor season took them to seven meets in March and April before they competed in the Peach Belt Conference Outdoor Championships on April 30 and May 1, where both teams took second place. Standouts for the Braves at the NCAA National Championships were Orlandus Gamble, who gained All-America honors both Indoor and Outdoor in high jump, and Quanterra Harrison, who placed 13th outdoors in the 100 m hurdles.

Cross Country competed in three meets in Fall 2021 before heading to the Conference Carolinas Championships on October 23, where both teams took second place. The men finished seventh and the women placed eighth at the NCAA Southeast Regional on November 6, led by Joshua Chepkessir and Erman Jepleting. Chepkessir then placed 8th at the NCAA National Championships, only the second UNCP athlete to be a two-time All-American in this sport.

Golf stayed competitive in 2021-2022 and came out on top at the Conference Carolinas Preview on March 14-15. But the highlight of the season was their first-place team finish at the Conference Carolinas Championships on April 3-4. Georgia Page was the individual tournament winner, the first UNCP golfer to win an individual conference title in nine years; teammate Tori Blackwell was runner-up, and all five Lady Braves made the All-Tournament Team..



2021 Women's Cross Country—Kathryn Anderson, Sam Badami, Erman Jepleting, Brookelyn Johnson, Jackline Kosgei, Corey Pethers, Chloe Phillips, Alycia Richardson, Valary Samoei



2021 Men's Cross Country—Ogler Bartolon, Gabe Blackwelder, Delsin Burkhardt, Joshua Chepkessir, Hunter Levy, Lucas Nervo, Ean Ormsby, Jack Phieffer, Alec Valle, Kevin Vazquez, Bryan Viera, J. Wainaina, Christian Whiteside



2021 Cross Country

Men

Covered Bridge Open	9 th
Converse Kick Off	7 th
UAH Chargers Invitational	19 th
Conference Carolinas Championships	2 nd
NCAA Southeast Regional	7 th
NCAA Championships	NTS

Women

Covered Bridge Open	11 th
Converse Kick Off	5 th
UAH Chargers Invitational	13 th
Conference Carolinas Championships	2 nd
NCAA Southeast Regional	8 th

2021-2022 Golf

Savannah Lakes Fall Invitational	T-12 th
Saint Leo Invitational	6 th
World Golf Invitational	T-11 th
Battle at Hilton Head	7 th
Low Tide Intercollegiate	7 th
Conference Carolinas Championships	1 st
NCAA South Regional	12 th



2021-22 Golf—Toni Blackwell, Samantha DeBusk, Madison Deese, Amanda Hamrin, Chessa Lee, Georgia Page, Elizabeth Ritchie



20-21 Women's Track & Field—Kathryn Anderson, Alycia Artman, Riley Axe, Aycock, Sam Badami, Britney Chambers, Micaiah Darity, Breze Ervin, Raigan Evans, Caroline Quantana Harrison, Aly Hudspeth, Leisha Jackson, Erman Jepleting, Brookelyn Johnson, Jackline Ji, Jazmine Lorenzo, Lillian Marino, Ebin Matthews, Molly McCann, Dy'Air McCormick, Taya Prithan, Shelby McMurray, Corey Pethers, Keionna Ray, Alayna Richardson, Alycia Richardson, Ross-Brown, Mikela Salone, Valary Samoei, Brianna Sanders, Saniya Smith, Azariah Stewart, Dawnya Teh, Jaela Thomas, Savannah Watkins, Liz Whitmore, Kaylyn Williams



2020-21 Men's Track & Field—Jamar Adams, Caleb Baldwin, Brandon Boyles, Delsin Burkhardt, Joshua Chepkessir, Preston Coker, Caleb Coles, Isaiah Daniel, Jathan DeBerry, Cedric Douglas, Darin Elmore, Orlandus Gamble, Jeffrey Gunter, Silas Kipkoech, Tinas Kinva, Wyatt Kuhnemann, Hunter Levy, Kendrick Lewis, Walker Mabe, Hunter March, Jermaine McKenzie, Cody Miller, Holden Newman, Cameron Oakley, Ean Ormsby, Bennie Oxendine, Jack Phieffer, Todzah Small, Andrew Whitaker, Christian Whiteside, Mark Williams

Conference Champions!

Soccer returned to its regular slot in the fall sports lineup, competing in Conference Carolinas for the first time and coming out on top. The Lady Braves were 15-5 overall in Fall 2021, with an outstanding 11-1 record in their new conference. After two early losses, UNCP defeated Queens 6-0 on September 11 and went on to win all but two of their remaining matches in the regular season. The team then scored a 1-0 victory over North Greenville on November 12 in the semifinals of the conference tournament before meeting Mount Olive in the championship match. Alexis Pittman's goal in the twelfth minute set the tone early as UNCP cruised to a 3-0 victory, earning the Women's Soccer program its second conference championship, the first since 2017, and a trip to the NCAA Championships. Although UNCP fell to Flagler, 1-2, in the first round on November 19, this season was definitely one for the record books.



2021 Soccer—Anna Bass, Chiara Coppin, Alexis Pittman, Rilee Seering, Zion Sellers, Maddison Oxendine, Anna Grossheim, Maya Grimes, Madison Fleck, Morgan Hill, Abigail Lowry, Brianna De Coteau, Nona Borden, Kassie Jesrani, Ilaya Bigford, Kennedy Rucker, Naomi Fountain, Nicole Cook, Ashleigh Harris



2021 Soccer		
UNCP		OPP
0	Lenoir-Rhyne	2
0	Queens	2
6	Erskine	0
0	Columbus State	4
3	Lees-McRae	1
4	Barton	0
2	North Greenville	0
3	Shaw	0
7	Converse	0
6	Chowan	2
5	King	0
5	Francis Marion	1
4	Emmanuel	1
1	Wingate	0
4	Southern Wesleyan	1
1	Mount Olive	2
1	Belmont Abbey	0
1	North Greenville	0
3	Mount Olive	0
1	Flagler	2



Back the Braves

UNCP Football was back with a successful season in Fall 2021, winning 6 out of 11 games that were played. Unfortunately, the opening game against Winston-Salem State, planned for September 4, was canceled, and the opposing team originally slated for September 11, West Virginia Wesleyan, had to forfeit. The Braves traveled to Ohio instead to face Findlay in a night game on that date, which resulted in their first loss. But they bounced back to defeat Glenville State 36-22 in the home opener on September 18.

There were many games this season that really showed our UNCP pride in the football world. October 16 pitted the Braves against West Virginia State, and the team hung on for a close 14-13 victory. Just a week later, UNCP also did a victory lap at the Homecoming game against Charleston, which ended with a score of 21-14. The Braves improved to 12-2 for Homecomings since the reintroduction of the football program, adding to the winning streak. On October 30, UNCP finished with a 27-17 victory against West Liberty. This triumph marked the fourth-straight win for the Braves against this opponent since 2016. Although the season ended with losses in the two final games, there's no doubt that we are looking forward to another great season in 2022.





2021 Football

UNCP

OPP.

1	West Virginia Wesleyan (forfeit)	0
28	Findlay	34
36	Glenville State	22
27	Fairmont State	30
21	Frostburg State	51
34	Wheeling	28
14	West Virginia State	13
21	Charleston	14
27	West Liberty	17
7	Notre Dame (Ohio)	45
25	Concord	28



2021 Football—Eric Price, Trey Dixon, Jai'Veon

Smalls, Sean Hill, Joseph Early, Alex Alvarado, Colin Johnson, Rodney Smith, John Jones, Josh Jones, Gunner Lattimore, Matt Jones, Tyshawn Carter, Jeremy Cain, Angelo Cromwell, Devin Jones, Dante Bowlding, Marcus Davis, DeAngelo Blair-Young, La'Trell Jewsome, D'Andre Ferguson, Virgil Lemons, Sam Vines, Cinsere Allison, Luke Brooks, Simeal Burke, Chad Norfleet, Evan Powell, Jaden Richeson, Bryce Beard, Benari Black, Evan VanMeter, Quentin Cooper, Marcus Bland, Jaylen Carter, Nick Minacapelli, Alex Hodge, Trent Brown, Austin Chavis, Brandon Wood-Potter, Zechariah Adams-Duckson, Blake Page, Alijah Barber, Gerardo Guerra Rivera, Noah Whitekettle, Nick Callahan, Masanka Kanku, Cam Lowery, C.J. Foxx, Devin Higgins, Ben Jaramillo, Julius Jackson, Osa Idehen, Kaceion Williams, Jimmy Simpson, Christian Coleman, Nick Anderson, Jeremiah Rodgers, William Cross, Chris Locklear, Dylan Best, Timon McMillan, Brandon Griffin, Carson Sams, Jacob Perry, Solomon Polk, Bradey Lindhjem, Gage Baldwin, Jameson Stallings, Tony Pitt, Jonnie Varga, Keith Quick, Alex Collins, Coy Turnage, Ethan Ryan, Trey Chavis, Paulvin Horton, C.J. Davis, Tate Davis, LeRoy Franklin, Caleb Steele, Bo Osborne, Colin Abney, Faheem Diaab, Thatcher Tillett, Wendell Wheeler, Darryll Malachi, Jateh Storr, Octavis McLaurin, Branden Spencer, Caleb Lowery, Jordan Hughes, Taye Vereen, Isaiah Robinson, Tyreke King

Bouncing Back

Volleyball bounced back in style in Fall 2021, ending its first season of Conference Carolinas competition with 23 wins against 11 losses, only three of them in conference play. They split their four matches at the USC Aiken Invitational on September 3-4, but then prevailed over both Newberry and Winston-Salem State at the UNCP Tri-Match, their home opener on September 7. The Lady Braves fared less well at the Valdosta State Invitational on September 10-11, dropping the first three of their four matches there. The final win was a harbinger of things to come, leading to seven straight wins before their next loss to Emmanuel on October 1. Wins continued to outnumber losses for the rest of the regular season, leading up to a 3-0 victory over Erskine in the quarterfinals of the Conference Carolinas Championships, played on their home court on November 16. UNCP then traveled to Bristol, TN, for the semis, where top-seeded North Greenville hit nearly .350 at the net to eliminate the Lady Braves in a 3-0 sweep (18-25, 7-25, 18-25). The setback snapped the lid on a magical season for the Black & Gold, who registered their most conference victories in school history, while also posting the most overall UNCP softball victories since the 1994 campaign.

2021 Volleyball		
UNCP		OPP.
3	Lincoln Memorial	0
3	Carson-Newman	1
0	USC Aiken	3
1	Auburn Montgomery	3
3	Newberry	0
3	Winston-Salem State	0
0	Saint Leo	3
0	Eckerd	3
0	Valdosta State	3
3	Albany State	0
3	Coker	1
3	North Greenville	1
3	Fayetteville State	1
3	Belmont Abbey	0
3	Chowan	0
3	Mount Olive	0
3	Barton	0
1	Emmanuel	3
3	Erskine	1
3	Coker	0
3	Belmont Abbey	0
3	Southern Wesleyan	0
1	Flagler	3
2	Francis Marion	3
3	Converse	0
3	Barton	0
3	Mount Olive	2
1	Newberry	3
3	Chowan	0
3	King	1
3	Lees-McRae	1
1	Francis Marion	3
3	Erskine	0
0	North Greenville	3



2021 Volleyball—Olivia Britt, Katie Pressley, Emma Fraidenburg, Katelyn West, Brianna Warren, Hope Turbyfill, Marissa Morgan, Morgan Gibbs, Elise Martin, Erin O'Donnell, T. Osborne, Kaila Crowder, Shannon Skryd, Abby Spencer, Elly Hicks



2021-2022 Swimming

132	Campbell	130
King Invitational		2 nd
171	Mars Hill	71
142	Lenoir-Rhyne	100
Guilford College Invitational		1 st
William Peace Invitational		1 st
197	Converse	58
150	Roanoke	112
94	Wingate	165
Conference Carolinas Championships		3 rd



2021-22 Swimming—Bianca Bateman, Madeline Everhart, Gretchen Millenwater, Ianna Gomez Veloz, Jaycie Knight, Gillian Manning, Mariel Mencia Martinez, Anna Miller, Sarah Morden, Sara Ormsby, Ketlyn Rodriguez Matos, Nevaeh Roverato, Gina Ruffino, Natalia Armiento, Paige Seplak, Nathalia Silva, Nina Wiatrowski, Jena Wise

Diving In

Our swimmers won five meets and placed no lower than second in invitationals during their 2021-22 season. UNCP led at the end of the first day of the Conference Carolinas Championships, held on February 16-19, powered by a victory by Ketlyn Rodriguez Matos, Sarah Morden, Gillian Manning, and Mariel Mencia Martinez in the 200-yard medley relay and Nathalia Silva's record-shattering win in the 1,000-yard freestyle. Senior Gillian Manning shattered another record in the 500-yard freestyle title on Day 2, but UNCP slipped to second place. Manning topped the field in a pair of events on Day 3. On the final day, Silva set a Conference Carolinas record on the way to the event title in the 1,650-yard freestyle. The Braves totaled 554 points over the four-day event, finishing in the No. 3 spot, and Manning shared Conference Swimmer of the Year laurels.

2021-2022 Men's Basketball

UNCP		OPP.
85	Newberry	76
92	Catawba	68
77	Fayetteville State	58
110	Erskine	73
72	Emmanuel	82
82	Chowan	63
100	Lees-McRae	85
105	King	76
78	Converse	64
71	Belmont Abbey	62
99	Chowan	79
84	Francis Marion	71
90	Southern Wesleyan	86
97	Barton	90
95	Mount Olive	66
95	Converse	55
92	North Greenville	61
76	Francis Marion	66
80	Emmanuel	59
87	King	68
100	Lees-McRae	83
88	Southern Wesleyan	98
91	Belmont Abbey	75
101	Mount Olive	84
91	Erskine	72
103	Barton	75
101	North Greenville	71
67	Southern Wesleyan	66
73	Belmont Abbey	79
74	Flagler	70
76	Augusta	82



Full-Court Press

Men's Basketball returned to a full schedule in 2021-2022 and made the most of it. Their 27-4 season edged the 1990-91 squad (27-5) for the best record in school history with respect to overall winning percentage, and they had an amazing conference record of 22-2 in their debut in Conference Carolinas. The season included a 16-game winning streak from November 30-February 5 before a loss to Southern Wesleyan on February 11, but they rebounded to win the remaining six games of the regular season. After a close win over Southern Wesleyan in the semis of the conference tournament, the top-seeded Braves fell to third-seeded Belmont Abbey in the championship game on March 6.



After a win over Flagler on March 12 in the quarterfinals of the NCAA Southeast Regionals, the 11th-ranked Braves canned an impressive six 3-pointers in the opening half of their semifinal to take a slim lead at halftime, but fifth-ranked and top-seeded Augusta shot better than 50 percent from the field and went 18-for-24 from the free throw line in the second half to key an 82-76 win over UNCP, ending this historic season. Contributing to the effort throughout were two senior guards; Tyrell Kirk led the team in points per game, assists, and free throws, while Spencer Levi led in rebounds, blocks, and field goal percentage. Levi was also named UNCP's male Student Athlete of the Year.



22 Men's Basketball—Trenton McIntyre, Nygell Verdier, Tyre Boykin, Bradlee Haskell, Deon Berrien, Cortez Marion-Holmes, Javonte Lerly, Jordan Ratliffe, Tyrell Kirk, Julian Williams, Spencer Levi, Ray Faison, Jakari Gallon, Kenneth Hodges, Kenny Scott, Nate Dunlop

Bouncing Back!

The Lady Braves bounced back in style in their first season of Conference Carolinas competition, ending their 2021-22 campaign with 19 wins against 10 losses overall. After an exhibition game against NC State in Raleigh on November 3, the team began the regular season with a 66-51 win over Coker on November 12. Their 59-49 victory over Erskine on November 20 was the first of four straight wins against conference opponents before a 76-80 loss to King on December 4 ended the streak. After a decisive 68-41 win over North Greenville at home on February 24 to close out the regular season, the Lady Braves suffered a heartbreakingly-close (67-69) loss to Emmanuel in the second round of the Conference Carolinas tournament on February 28, but they accumulated a total of 17 wins and only 7 losses in conference games for the season. Sophomore forward Gabby Smith led the team in points per game and field goal percentage, and another sophomore forward, Lillian Flantos led in 3-point percentage. Sophomore guard Courtney Smith led in assists, and freshman guard Zaria Clark in rebounds.

This historic season paid dividends when Alcenia Purnell and Gabby Smith were both named to the Conference Carolinas All-Conference Team, while Zaria Clark picked up Freshman of the Year honors. Purnell averaged 32.0 minutes per game and scored a total of 291 points, including 10 or more points on 14 different outings. Smith was a dominating force inside the paint, shooting 52.1 percent from the field; she averaged 13.0 points and 23.5 minutes per game; pulled down 128 rebounds; and recorded 14 steals and blocked 10 shots. Smith also scored 20 or more points in five games this season, including a career-high 29 points against King. Clark made the most out her collegiate debut. She saw action in all 29 games and registered 264 points. A threat from the free throw line as well, Clark finished the season shooting 84.9 percent from the line, which ranked her second in the league.



2021-22 Women's Basketball—Aniah McManus, Naomi Gilbert, Ja-el Miller, Kelci Adams, Courtney Smith, Zaria Clark, Alcenia Purnell, Amazriah Rawls, Kelly Luck, Tiara Williams, Hannah Russell, Malia Poirrier, Diamond Fedrick, Lillian Flantos, Gabby Smith



2021-2022 Women's Basketball

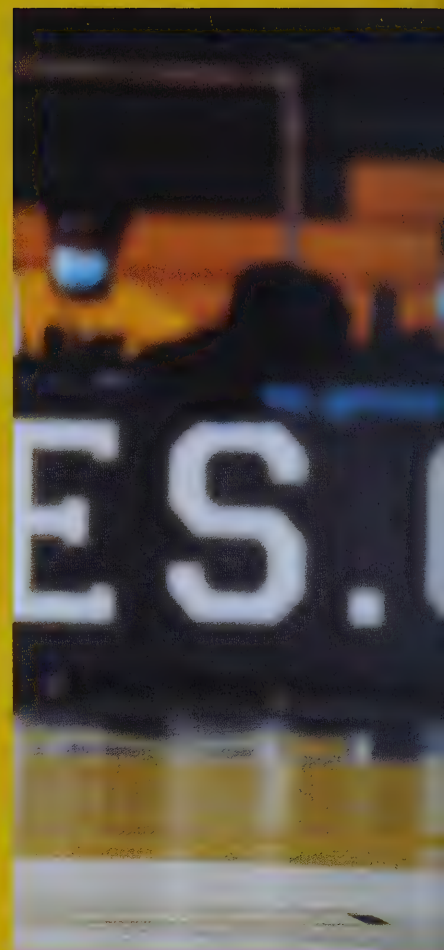
UNCP		OPP.
36	NC State	92
66	Coker	51
59	Wingate	66
47	Fayetteville State	55
59	Erskine	49
70	Emmanuel	53
65	Winthrop	45
64	Chowan	54
66	Lees-McRae	32
76	King	80
63	St. Augustine's	40
76	Converse	40
68	Belmont Abbey	52
54	Chowan	62
66	Francis Marion	49
50	Barton	59
53	Mount Olive	61
57	Converse	42
64	North Greenville	39
74	Francis Marion	79
70	Emmanuel	64
84	King	64
70	Lees-McRae	79
67	Southern Wesleyan	64
61	Belmont Abbey	57
63	Mount Olive	62
69	Southern Wesleyan	51
55	Erskine	42
60	Barton	79
68	North Greenville	41
67	Emmanuel	69

On the Mat

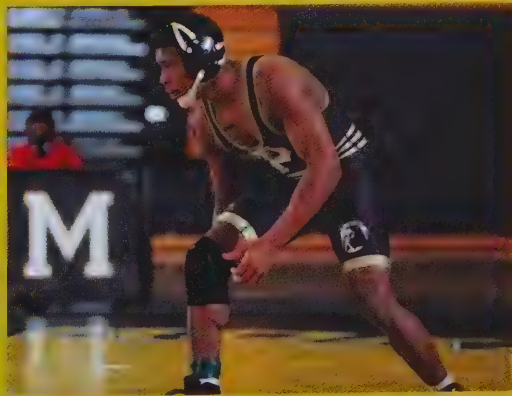
The wrestling team had a full season in 2021-22 after their pandemic-shortened outing the previous year, finishing with an overall dual-meet record of 7 wins and 8 losses. Five of those losses were against tough tournament competition at the Carolina Clash in Greenwood, SC, on December 4 and the NWCA Multi-Division National Duals in Louisville, KY, on January 6. The Braves hosted the NCAA Super Regional II on February 26, finishing just short in their bid for a second title, but Nick Daggett and newcomer Zach Shaffer reached the top of the podium in their respective tournaments. The Braves finished the Super Regional event with eight place-winners in all.

The top-3 Super Regional place-winners for the Braves—Daggett, Shaffer, Jovaun Johnson, Jake Piccirilli, Rahsaan Vereen, and Bryce Walker—advanced to the NCAA Division II Championships on March 11-12 in St. Louis, MO. UNCP walked away with a 33rd-place showing at the nationals, making this the 21st-straight season that the Braves have finished among the nation's top 35 teams. Nick Daggett claimed all-America honors for the third straight year with a sixth-place finish in the 125-pound tournament; Daggett registered a pair of victories to advance through to the semifinal round for the second straight year but dropped a tough bout with top-ranked and top-seeded Cole Laya from West Liberty. The showing marked the fourth time that Daggett had climbed to the podium at the NCAA Championships, including a runner-up finish last year.

Five UNCP wrestlers earned All-South Atlantic Conference Carolinas laurels this season: Nick Daggett, Jake Piccirilli, Rahsaan Vereen, Bryce Walker, and Zach Shaffer. It was the third straight year that the Black & Gold sent multiple student-athletes to all-conference teams.



2021-22 Wrestling—Marcus Bell, Nathan Buchanan, Loye Burkhead, Anthony Carter, Shane Chavis, Christian Coto, Chance Cottingham, Nick Daggett, Christopher Dickey, Matt Engel, Joshua Feliz, Tkaii Gaither, Caleb Grau, Malcolm Gray, Auden Green, Cameron Greene, G Hill, Jovaun Johnson, Grant Kehlenberg, Chris Kelly, Noah Locklear, Will Lowery, Mike Lowry, Nic Marando, Braxton May-Nicholson, Ch Metikosh, Ryan Monk, Joseph Nicholson, Cliff Owens, Vincent Page, Joey Perez, Colin Pettine, Jake Piccirilli, Thomas Schock, Shylik Scriven, Logan Seliga, Zach Shaffer, Brandon Smith, Garrett Steele, Massimo Sullivan, Rahsaan Vereen, Bryce Walker, Ryan Walker, Patrick Werve, Dante Williams



2021-2022 Wrestling

UNCP		OPP.
12	West Liberty	32
14	Glenville State	27
6	St. Cloud State	33
34	Bluefield State	15
Midwest Classic		T-29th
15	Newberry	21
15	Indianapolis	25
34	King	9
10	Colorado Mesa	33
31	Queens	13
36	Emmanuel	8
17	Belmont Abbey	18
43	Coker	11
33	Mount Olive	6
20	Lander	18
15	King	30
NCAA Super Region II Championships		2nd
NCAA Championships		33rd



UNC PEMBROKE

Yearbook

#SNAP



The people who enter UNCP as individuals find their way during their years here by forming communities. They are classmates, roommates, teammates, and members of groups that share common interests, goals, and passions. Whether in-person or virtual, the sense of community provides support and helps us maintain our Brave spirit. As students progress to their senior year, they can reflect on the people and communities who have helped shape their experiences at

UNCP, laying the foundation for them as they move on to find their way in the years to come.

People

2019-2020 Portraits.....	136
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2021-2022 Portraits.....	166

2019-2020 SENIORS



Kentrell Baines

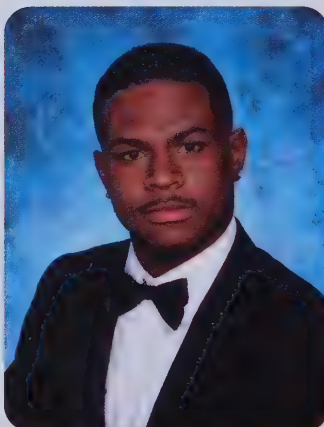
Criminal Justice
Jacksonville

Justin Baldwin

Recreation/Sports Administration
Raeford

Summer Barnes

Biology
Lumberton



Sydney Blake

English
Lumberton

Gregory Bond

Business Management
Gatesville

Shana Bowersock

Social Work
Rockingham





Sydney Blake is from Lumberton and has always lived there. She has always commuted and found it much cheaper due to not having to pay for the meal plan or to stay on campus. She started as a science major but is now an English major because, she said, "I changed to what I truly loved and wanted to do." She said she has had a good experience with the course offerings and faculty in her department. She joined the Write Club as a freshman, and it helped her to be a better writer and do more of what she loved. She writes short stories and reads books in her free time. Her favorite author is Jane Austen.

She works at the Writing Center 6 hours a week and helps her fellow students write essays. She also works at a hardware store for 25 hours a week and said it has not affected her studies because she is able to balance them.

Sydney said UNCP has changed a lot during her years here; there are a lot more people and parking issues, but she is okay with the changes. What Sydney likes most about UNCP is the community, the familiarity, and how small it is. She met her best friend, Jordan, at UNCP. Sydney feels scared and excited about being a senior. Some advice she shared was to not let senioritis get to you and to use the Career Center when conducting a job search. She plans to attend graduate school here at Pembroke and teach. Advice Sydney would give a freshman is, "Do what you love from the beginning," because she didn't at first, and "Never sell yourself short."

Sydney Blake



Carlisa Brown

English
Tabor City



Cory Brown

Applied Physics
Columbia, SC



James Butcher

Biology
Havelock



Meghan Canady

Elementary Education
Lumberton



Chelsey Cartrette

Elementary Education
Columbus County



Anahi Chavez

Information Technology
Mexico

Chauntina Clark

Interdisciplinary Studies
Winston-Salem

Mikwan Cole

Broadcasting
Winston-Salem

Holanda Coston

Exercise and Sports Science
Elizabethtown

**Faith Crumel**

Sociology
Pennsylvania

Chyna Cuthbertson

Social Work
Cleveland

Taylor Davis

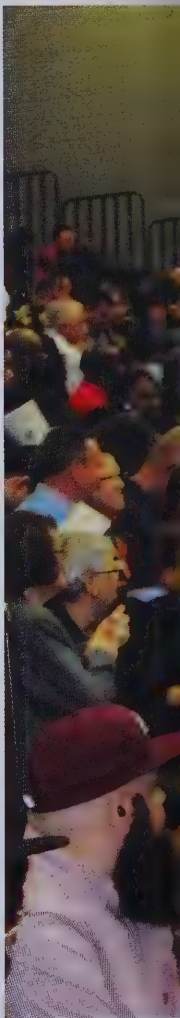
Criminal Justice and Sociology
Laurinburg



Azael Gilberto Perez was born in Duplin County, NC, to Guatemalan parents. As a child he was always physically active; he grew up playing soccer on the weekends with his friends and this led to him playing striker in his school team while he was in early college, where he got an associate's degree. Coming to UNCP gave him a chance to be able to go back home more often, but he also found other reasons to like UNCP as he became more immersed with the university itself. His major is Spanish Education; he thought that it would be a lot of fun to teach about Spanish culture. He also joined ACTO Latino because he wanted to go out and participate in school activities and meet more people. The group itself is not very big, but he says that it is a very tight-knit group of people and that they all hang out a lot. Since joining ACTO Latino he feels like he has come out of his shell because of having to get up and act in front of many people. Even though it might feel very ridiculous at times, it doesn't scare him anymore. Now in class he talks to his classmates, having come out of his cocoon and blossomed into a social butterfly. He will be able to take this into his life and use it forever. He advises students to join student organizations and clubs, and as many as they can. This way you can become more into the community here and get outside your dorm. UNCP isn't just about coming to class on the weekdays and forgetting about it after class. It has so much more to offer. He thinks that people should come to UNCP not only because of its price but also because how the community is; we're such a tight knit school and people should really take advantage of that.

Azael Perez

Profiled by Yamilkal Enrique Hernandez





Amy-Lauren Duru

Psychology

Sherastin Dutch

Elementary Education

Laurel Hill

Qiana Ehrensperger

Psychology

Fayetteville



Maribel Fitzgibbon

Public/Nonprofit Administration

Fayetteville

Cynthia Flores

Forensic Chemistry

Lumberton

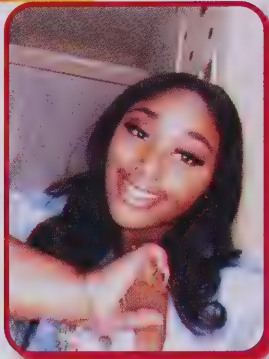
Lilly Fowler

Studio Art

Hope Mills



**2019-2020
SENIORS**



Jordan Danielle Curtis was born in Fayetteville and is studying Journalism and minoring in Public Relations at UNCP, where she is in her fourth year. Originally, she started with an English major but soon found out that she did not enjoy it as much as she enjoyed reading newspapers and writing stories. Jordan joined the yearbook staff to gain some experience in publishing but has grown to enjoy being part of the publication. Currently, Jordan's is working as the editor-in-chief of the UNCP's Indianhead yearbook this year.

Jordan has encountered many firsts this year that have helped to define and shape her life. Senior year has hit Jordan hard. She has found there to be "a lack of motivation to finish papers and projects," but she says that she must remember that she is almost done and keep on going. Jordan wants to teach in her hometown of Fayetteville for a year or two after she graduates. Afterwards, she wants to continue to further her education locally in North Carolina. She is struggling to figure out what else she wants to do with her degree but hopes that more schooling will give her more direction in figuring that out. Finally, Jordan has some advice for the incoming freshmen: "College is stressful to your mental health and can become very overwhelming, so it is best for you to take a little time off to recuperate and gather your focus to be able to continue pushing forward and getting your degree."

Profiled by Quest Schmachtenberger

Jordan Curtis

Katlyn Gaddy

Criminal Justice
Lumberton

Chase Green

Public Relations
Lumberton

Tristan Haddock

Information Technology
Fayetteville

Keyona Hargett

History
Fayetteville

Pamela Harrelson

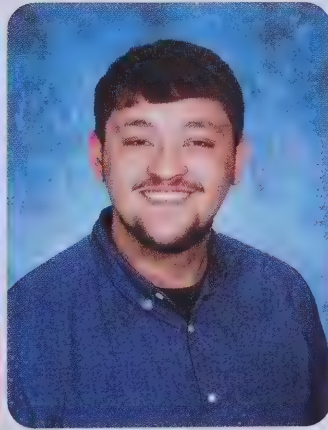
Environmental Science
Hope Mills

Earl Haywood Jr.

Criminal Justice
Laurinburg



2019-2020 SENIORS



Brandon Herron

Zoology
Guayaquil, Ecuador

Amanda Holmes

Environmental Science
Eastover

Kelton Jacobs

Management
Pembroke



Leanna Jacobs

Biology
Red Springs

Mariah Jacobs

Sociology
Maxton

William Johnson

Environmental Science
Monroe

Justin Jones

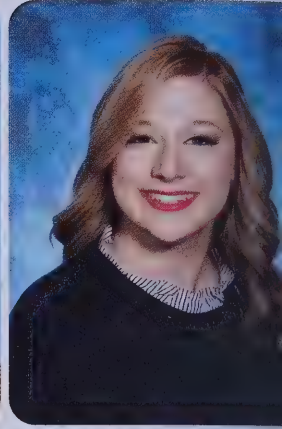
Exercise Physiology
Jacksonville

Jasmine Kelly

Environmental Science
Bowie, MD

Alexandra Larvie

Sociology
Fayetteville



Dezarae Lehman

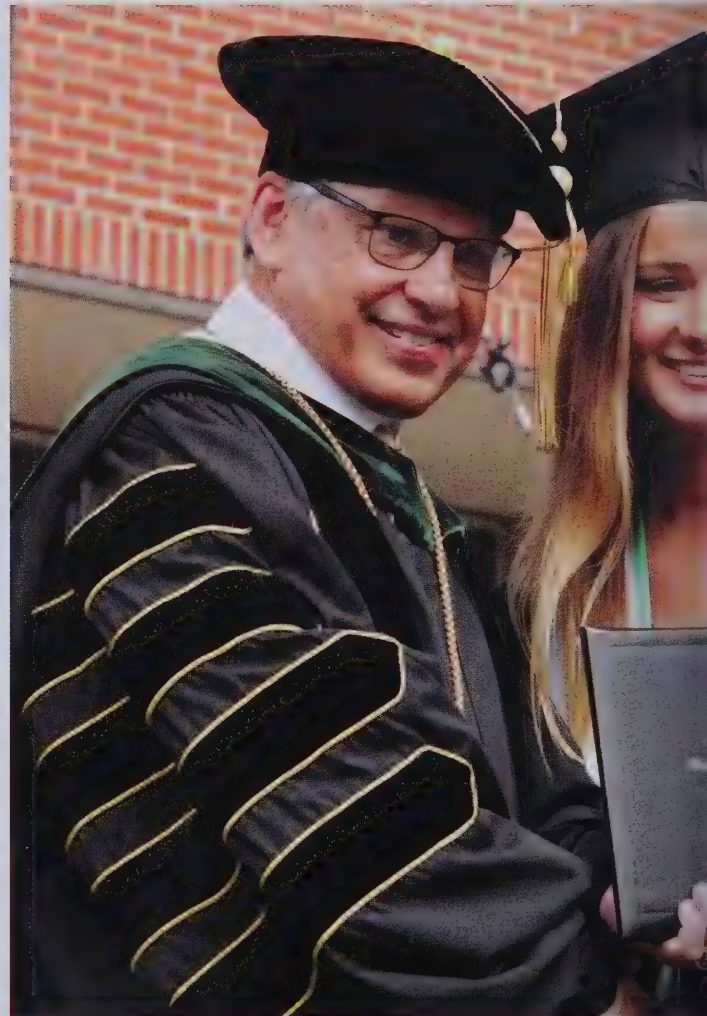
Elementary Education
Leland

Dora Lewis

Sociology
Pembroke

Alisabeth Limon

English and Spanish
Fayetteville



**2019-2020
SENIORS**

**Alyssia Locklear**

Psychology
Pembroke

**Hope Locklear**

Art Education
Lumberton

**Morgan Love**

Social Work
Kannapolis

**Tyler Makosy**

Exercise and Sports Science
Ijamsville, MD

**Summer Martin**

Elementary Education
Lumberton

**Haley Maxwell**

Elementary Education
Fayetteville



Gregory Devon Bond, called Greg by most people, was originally from Gatesville, NC, a country area where he lived most of his life. He had lived in various places after he got his first degree from North Carolina A&T in 2005, including Jacksonville, Durham, Elizabeth City, and Plymouth, NC, as well as Lynchburg, VA, before settling in Fayetteville during his time at UNCP. He was a member of Unity Christian Church International in Fayetteville, and when not working on his classes, he enjoyed spending time with his wife, working out, and playing video games.

Greg was an online student majoring in business management. He chose this major because his first degree was in journalism, and he wanted to go into a different career field. He said that the coursework has helped him a lot. "There were some classes I thought I wouldn't need," he said, "and once I was in the class, it showed me I had plenty to learn." He also said that his professors "have helped build confidence within me." Greg's goal was to graduate with a job offer. The best advice when conducting job searches, he said, is "Make sure you are looking for more than just a paycheck. You should make sure the job has good benefits and the company fits you and your life."

Greg enjoyed his time at UNCP; he liked that the community was very friendly to him and his wife. "I will miss how the university treated us like a family when we were on campus," he said. In concluding, he shared some advice that every freshman should hear: "Study hard, don't take things too seriously, and trust in yourself."

Profiled by Logan Seliga

Gregory Bond

2019-2020 SENIORS



Tiara May

History
Poughkeepsie, NY

Erin McCauley

Sociology
Calgary, Alberta, Canada

Demarkeis McInnis

Exercise Physiology
Laurinburg



Diamond McLean

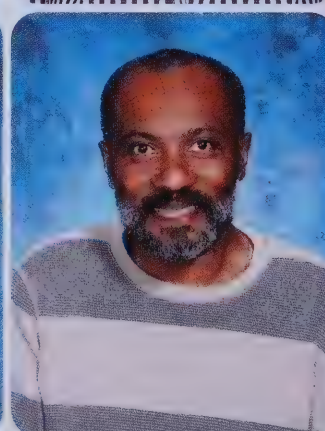
English Education
Lumberton

Reginald McLean

Sociology
Red Sorings

Jordan McLelland

Mass Communication
Randleman





Tiara May was born in Poughkeepsie, NY, and lived there for 10 years. The city was small and close. After starting in Social Studies Education, Tiara now majors in History, with a minor in African American Studies, and she would like to be a professor. She chose this path because she felt like there should be more people of color in this work field. Tiara works at Pizza Hut, 20 hours a week, and is the vice president of Black History Club. She says her job at Pizza Hut can be tiring, but the Black History Club is a nice break and it helped her meet a lot of new people. Outside of school she wants to focus on self-growth and researching more about black history.

Tiara likes that UNCP is a good size school and community, and she will miss the quiet town. One change she did not like is the Chick-Fil-a they added at the UC; she says that Bert's, the old food place that was there, had better food options. Graduating is bittersweet for her because she is ready to go, but nervous about the future, and her advice to other students is "Get your financial aid done!" Tiara plans to go to grad school, hopefully in New York, to continue to study history, specifically African American studies. Her advice is, "Find a job that is a crossover between your passion and something you can live off." Her advice to entering freshmen is to "choose your friends wisely, pick good classes, and join a club." And one last thing she wanted to add: "Stay true to yourself. All this work is going to pay off, and it WILL be worth it!"

Tiara May



Justice McLeod

Information Technology
Laurel Hill



Sierra McLeod

Criminal Justice
Fayetteville



Caleb McMillan

Biology/Bio Medical Emphasis
Shannon



Zetonya McNair McMillan

Social Work
Rockingham



Thomasina McRae

Sociology



Brianna Montgomery

Exercise Physiology
Hope Mills

Sheila Morales

Biology
St. Pauls

Jada Morrison

Sociology

Angela Napoli

Psychology
Brockport, NH

**Jordan Norton**

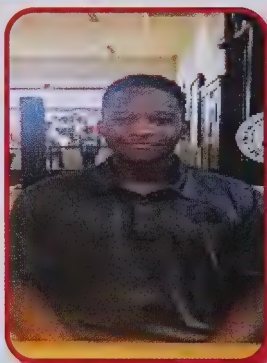
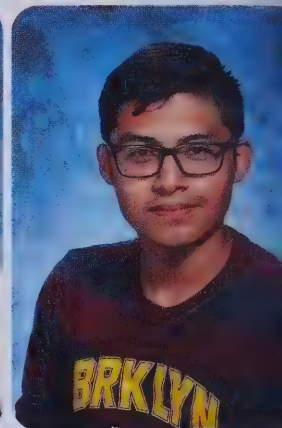
Nursing
Laurel Hill

Alexis Oxendine

Criminal Justice
Robeson County

Azael Perez

Spanish Education
Warsaw



Demarkeis Qarnayn McInnis, a.k.a. DJ, grew up in a small, quiet town named Laurinburg, where he has lived for twenty-three long years. As a transfer student, he has only been attending UNCP for two years, and he said as soon as he got here, he could tell that it was a carefree, relaxing environment. Majoring in Exercise Science and living in a campus commute, Demarkeis works at Domino's, back in Laurinburg, and is involved in the Pool Club and Club Baseball. The diversity and the facilities available in the Hawks Nest are some of the things he admires about this school. Another thing he enjoys is how it reminds him of home. He sees a possibility for change, and once it happens,

he hopes it's for the better.

Aside from work and extracurricular groups, Demarkeis focuses his time on doing his assignments, working out, playing video games, boxing, and practicing martial arts. All of these activities have helped him meet new people, such as members from the club and his classmates, who he says will continue to be significant in his life. He also specifically mentioned his advisors, Dr. Whooten and Dr. Winters. Advice he wants to give to entering freshmen is, "Whatever is on the list, knock it out quick; it will make your life easier." He also said to remember that once you're a senior, "The job isn't finished. Don't slack off."

Demarkeis McInnis

Profiled by Damondre Wells



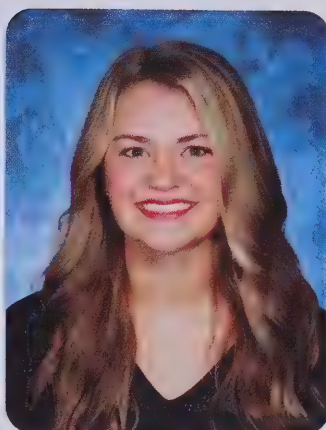
Jennifer Perez Cortez

Business Administration Finance
Winston-Salem



Karina Ramosbarbosa

Biology
Eagle River, AK



Emmie Ransom

Elementary Education
Bladenboro



Hannah Revels

Environmental Science
Maxton



Abdul Yusuf Shah

Exercise and Sports Science
Durham



Breanna Sigler

Chemistry/Pre Pharmacy
Tacoma, WA



**2019-2020
SENIORS**



Jordan Norton, who goes by the nickname "Dy-Dy," has lived her whole life in Laurel Hill, a close-knit country town where everyone knows everyone. Jordan is majoring in Nursing because, she explained, at the age of nine she lost her mother, and she took care of her grandma when she had cancer. She chose this major so she could save someone else's mother. She enjoys the feeling of giving her time, love, and care to others. Jordan stated that the faculty care, they want you to succeed, and they're very focused on professionalism. The other students in the program become like a family. During her years at UNCP, Jordan has been an ER Tech (CNA) at Scotland and Community Health and worked in Home Health. Finally being a senior, Jordan is relieved, excited, and tired, but very grateful. Her plans after she graduates are to live in Hamlet with her soon-to-be husband and continue to work at Scotland as an RN. She is also thinking about going into the ER or Labor and Delivery field, and she may attend graduate school in the future and go for nursing education as well. UNCP has changed in the time that Jordan has spent here. It has become more sophisticated, built new facilities, acquired new technology; more people attend the university, and it's very diverse. The things that Jordan likes best about UNCP are its diversity, the opportunities offered, and the cost to attend school here. The things she'll miss are the people she has met along the way, her nursing family the most. She has been here so long that it's a part of her now.

Profiled by Rekiya Locklear



Jordan Norton

Zharia Sims-Edwards

Biology
Charlotte

Jordan Smith

Exercise and Sports Science
Lake Waccamaw

Elizabeth Stewart

Criminal Justice
Cedar Point



Ja'Qavis Threatt

Business
Monroe

Eraina Tobin

Criminal Justice
North Carolina

Katya Vasquez

Social Work
Bladenboro



2019-2020 SENIORS



Demetrius Venson

Mass Communication
Raeford



Ruohong Wang

Finance
Jiang Su, China



Samantha Watson

Medical Office Administration
Fairmont



Connor Watt

Geo Environmental Studies
Raleigh



Kenneth Williams

Exercise And Sports Science
Shallotte



Bolin Yan

Business Management
China

Ayo Bryant

Business Administration
Fayetteville

Courtney Clark

Mathematics Education
Robeson County



Briauna Hester

Science Education

Siti Liu

Business Administration
China

Norma Locklear-Richardson

Art Education
Pembroke



**2019-2020
GRAD
STUDENTS**



Gerald Puckett

School Administration
Hope Mills



Mengyan Shen

Business Administration
China



Robianna Tucker

Professional School Counseling
Hope Mills



Alex Tutts

Clinical Mental Health Counseling
Pembroke



Xiaoxiao Yang

Business Administration
China



2019-2020 JUNIORS



Darius Barnes
Bethany Lynn Gober
Sarah Graybar



Mattea Green
Jacob McNeil





Elizabeth Miller
Kayla Miraglia
Roland Pruitt



Fatimah Salman
Sports Tweede

Tiffany Bramblett

Jayla Coley

Bobbi Sterling

Parker Vass



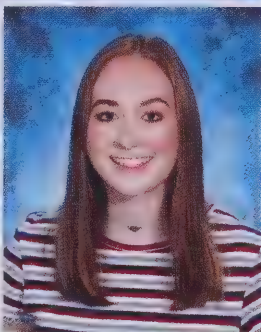
2019-2020 SOPHOMORES &



Mary Balogun
Carisma Brandon
April Butts
Jamari Cradle



Taliyah Daniels
Aliah Figgs
Jason Liu
Brianna Livengood



Nancy Lopez Aguirre
Ni'Quasia McCray
Tionah Parnell
Alayna Powell



Trey Rushing
Deasjia Shannon
Summer Singletary
Nicole Stevens



Oluferinkunwa Tunde-Onadele
Ja'Quel Z. Williams
Jamar Williams

FRESHMEN

2020-2021 SENIORS



Laruth Anderson

Mass Communication
Maury

Leanne Applewhite

Biology
Riegelwood

Sherri Balkum

Interdisciplinary Studies
Sunset Beach



Darius Barnes

Elementary Education
Hampton, VA

Destiny Blue

Social Work
Hope Mills

Tiffany Bramblett

Analytical Chemistry
Lumberton



Kristian Johnson



Kristian Johnson is a senior majoring in political science. Originally from Columbus, GA, he moved to Fayetteville when his family was relocated by the military. He lived with his mother, stepfather, and two siblings. At UNCP, he lived on campus in the dorms but planned to have an apartment with his friends. While Kristian has been around a multitude of people in his life varying in race, sexuality, and orientation, it was very interesting to move to a more rural place. Kristian has lived in bigger cities for most of his life, so it was interesting to see how people live in a more rural area.

Kristian planned to maybe attend law school one day or become a public relations officer; he hopes to help uphold laws that benefit others. His job at the current time was being a server at Hwy 55, and he recently obtained the position of orientation leader. When Kristian was not at work or in class, he spent his free time studying, hanging out with friends, or doing "nerdy things." He enjoys playing video games and learning about ancient cultures and their religions. Kristian also enjoys watching volleyball and soccer.

Kristian's favorite professor overall has been Hannah Bagget-Anderson, a composition professor he has had for two semesters. "She is hands down the best professor I have had," Kristian said. "She is constantly energized, and she is passionate about what she does. She inspires me to write even though that is not something I usually do."

Profiled by Ashlynn Cox



Devon Cessna

Music Education
Hope Mills



Cesar Diaz

Business Administration
Maxton



Jacob Elliott

Nursing
Oxford



C'Alvion Ely

Public Relations
Raeford



Jon Felix

Exercise Physiology
Greensboro



Patricia Fox

English
Lumberton

Celeste Handy

McKenna Hart

Social Work
Fayetteville

Cassandra Hartley

Social Work
Wagram



Amodsiw Jzar

Environmental Science
Charlotte

Tyrique Kirby

Business Administration
Winton-Salem

Colby Locklear

Information Technology
Pembroke



Lilly Fowler



Lilly Rosanne Fowler is a Studio Art major with a minor in Music from Hope Mills, NC. Lilly is a bubbly person in many different clubs, all of which she asks you join, like the Art Club and Genshiken, the school's very own version of an anime club! Even with all these clubs she still finds time to play in UNCP's orchestra as a violinist. Luckily for her she lives in an apartment on campus, which some days can be boring, but very helpful when it comes to balancing her hectic life. All of her clubs and working in the Art Department Gallery have been very helpful when it comes to understanding forms of art and how to display them. When it comes to graduating she is excited to see what

the world will offer. She wants to continue her education by getting her MFA in Printmaking so that she may become a professor. She is hoping that she could get assistantships for teaching and or studio technician jobs so that she can help get some experience under her belt. Even with all this excitement she still has her worries and sadness. Not for her future but for the realization how much she is going to miss her friends and professors, hoping to keep in touch with them even after she graduates and moves on to do amazing things with her life, hoping to make them all proud. Lilly is a kind and exciting person who will do amazing things. Some advice she gives is to not feel any shame in changing your degree so that you don't end up stressing yourself out. To also get plenty of sleep and to eat, those are very important! One last thing she asks is that you check out Printmaking. In her own words, "Please join Printmaking, it is fun!"

Profiled by Victoria Martin



Latorya Martin

Social Work
St. Pauls



Jacob McNeil

Information Technology
Fayetteville



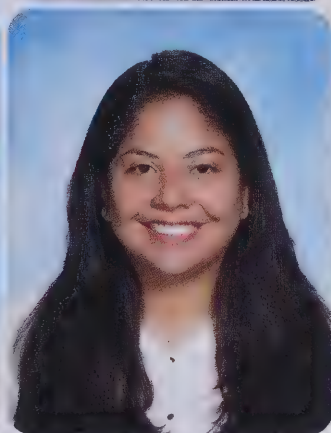
Thomas Mullins

Business Management
Chadbourn



Joseph Newman

Music
Southern Pines



Violeta Padron

Criminal Justice
Rockingham



Azael Perez

Spanish Education
Warsaw



**2020-2021
SENIORS**

Tanner Bullard



Tanner Bullard is a Health and Physical Education major and a student assistant softball coach from Whiteville, NC. He has lived there all of his life and considers it to be a nice place to live. Tanner generally enjoys school and always has. He wanted to learn more about health and physical education to hopefully teach others more about it as well. He thinks the faculty has been the absolute best to him and how they treat everyone is just amazing. His current internship is where he gets to see how it is to finally be the teacher and understand their role in education. Tanner enjoys participating in fun PE games and he has learned to understand the teacher aspect of everything and how it is to be the teacher. Tanner said that it is exciting to be a senior already and that he plans to attend graduate school to further his education. Tanner said that COVID-19 has been hard on all of us overall and that we have lost a lot of in-person classes to when they switched to being online. He said that it was a struggle and still is; however we are slowly coming back, and it has definitely become a lot easier. Tanner mentioned that he likes the culture and the diversity that you can easily find on campus within the faculty and students. He also enjoys being close to the Lumbee culture and seeing those cultures be involved in a lot at the campus. Tanner will miss seeing his friends and overall being on campus. Tanner would recommend that entering freshmen enjoy college, find new friends, and enjoy going out.

Profiled by Jessica Bies

Dominique Quenga

English
Red Springs

Fatimah Salman

Sociology
Pembroke

Wendy Sanchez



Robert Scott

Criminal Justice & Sociology
Dillion S.C

Keturah Starks

Isis Telombila-Mouanga

International Business
Pembroke





2020-2021 SENIORS



Sports Tweede

Interdisciplinary Studies- Science
Raeford

Nathalie Vargas

Chemistry
Saint Pauls

Justin Villanueva

Chemistry



Charlotte Watkins

Criminal Justice
Lilesville

Kaylyn Williams

Exercise and Sport Science
Chateaugay, Q.C

Breanna Winston

Biology
NC

2020-2021 GRAD STUDENTS



Janet Campbell

Education
Red Springs

Kiara Cleveland

Social Work
Fayetteville

Demetrus Locklear

Business Administration
Pembroke



Meladora McAllister

School Counseling
Lumber Ridge

Shantionna Summers





2020-2021 JUNIORS



Nia Brown
Abigail Bullock
Jayla Coley



Emily Harrison
Amani McDonald

2020-2021 SOPHOMORES

Noah Bryant
Jenna Larkins
Alayna Powell



Isaac Saunders
Deasjia Shannon
Molly Tuttle





*Arison Alford
Talisha Bell
Sarabeth Lee*



Emma Worsham

2020-2021
FRESHMEN

2021-2022 SENIORS



Myles Trevor Arnold

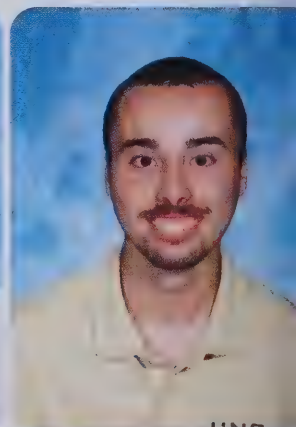
Music
Harrisburg

Ryan Christofoer Baer

Business
Pinehurst

Lane Baldwin

Exercise Science
Clayton



Irma Christine Bannerman

Psychology
Clinton

Summer Breeze Barnes

Biology
Lumberton

Christy Lynn Beasley

Social Work
Oxford





Briana Capel



Briana Capel, who also goes by "Bree," is a senior broadcasting major from Fort Mill, SC. She said that she chose her major because she loves talking to others and dealing with social media, and she also loves the classes that she is taking and the experience she has gained to potentially work in the field. Briana also worked on campus as the public relations chair of SGA. Her hobbies are cooking, making YouTube videos, working, dancing, traveling, and self-care. Her plans after college are to find a new job and travel, but ultimately, she would "like to become a YouTube content creator."

Covid-19 has been tough on everyone but especially students that were enrolled while the pandemic hit. When asked about how Covid-19 has affected her within the past 18 months, Briana said that she missed out on a trip with her club that would have benefitted her with finding a job.

Briana said that she loves the changes that have taken place on campus during the past few years, including the new business building and improvements to Sodexo. What Briana said that she liked best while attending UNCP have been the small classes and the family vibe/close bonds that she has created with teachers and students.

In closing, Briana stated, "Enjoy it while it lasts; time goes by quick. And be patient because everything that you will need will come at the right moment."

Profiled by Quimm Maykish



Zaria Beatrice Bell

Business Management
Kinston



Emily Grace Britt

Biology
Cerro Gordo



Timothy Wynn Britt

Biology
Cerro Gordo



Tammy Lynn Brooks

Business
Lumberton



Misty Lynn Bullard

Nursing
Laurinburg



Jared D. Burris

History
Whiteville

Briana Alexis Capel

Mass Communication
Fort Mill, SC

Deron Michael Cessna

Music Education
Hope Mills

Julianna Nicole Chapman

Chemistry
Lilesville

James Branson Charis

Political Science
Rowland

Payton Savannah Charis

Elementary Education
Bladenboro

Morgan Denise Cheek

Psychology
Durham

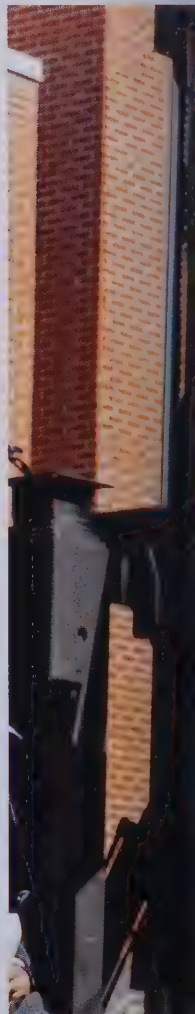


Glenn Sutton



Glenn LeDrama Sutton, a senior social work major from Fayetteville, is an orientation leader, a teacher assistant, and a peer mentor. When Glenn came to college, he really didn't know exactly what he wanted to do for a career. He believed that when you go to college you figure that out when you get there. But, Glenn said, "One of my old teachers really inspired me to take on social work. I always liked helping out people, defending those who can't defend themselves. You're helping out the ones who can't defend themselves or you're advocating for a lot of people." Glenn is also the vice president of Brother 2 Brother, a minority organization at UNCP that helps show young college males the steps to becoming a man. Glenn said that his favorite thing about UNCP is how diverse we are, and there is something unique about everyone. When asked about how UNCP has changed, Glenn said, "There has been a big rush of students come in so it's like UNCP is upgrading every year. We have the business building coming; we have all of these apartments being built. I just noticed that UNCP from my freshman year until now, my graduation year, is totally different." Glenn's goals for after he graduates are to enroll in the Master of Social Work program at UNCP and to continue helping students and be a peer mentor for them. In the next five years he even hopes that he will have his own Boys and Girls Club. You can easily tell that Glenn has a great deal of passion for what he does. Some advice Glenn wanted to give is, "You know who you are as a person; don't let other outside factors make you feel as if you have to change who you are. Stay true to yourself and always try to uplift those around you."

Profiled by Reginald Oxendine





Alexander Ryan Cottle

Criminal Justice
Dunn



Brigana M. Dover

Biology
Lumberton



Cutter Gabriel Cares

Biology
Laurinburg



Matthew Steven Edwards

Information Technology
Marion



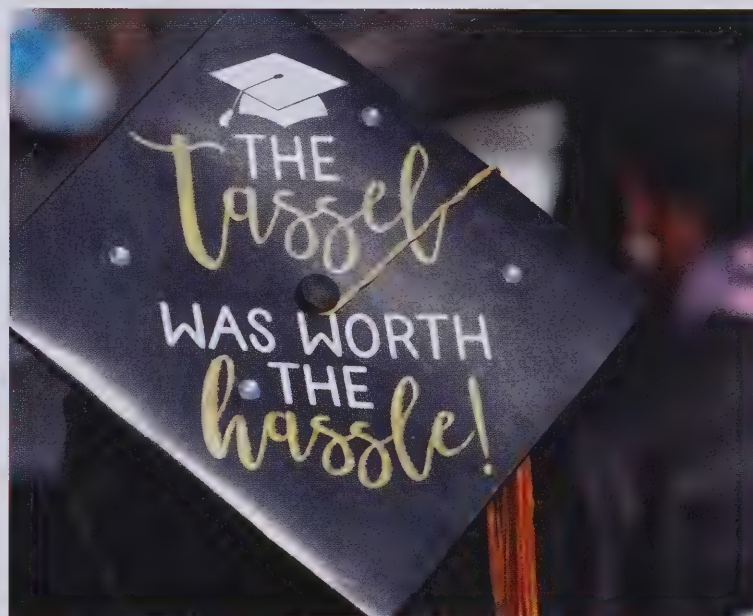
Carrie Elizabeth Eller

Art
Hamlet



Alliah Sheri Flagg

Psychology
Wilmington



2021-2022 SENIORS

Misty Bullard



Misty Bullard, informally known as Mist, is a senior from Scotland County, and completing her bachelor's degree in nursing is "the fulfillment of a 23-year-old dream." As a distance learner Misty saves money on gas and other commuter fees but is farther away from UNCP events that she loves attending. She has two jobs, working home healthcare with Bright Horizons and Moore County schools as a COVID nurse. Misty is a Christian and a preacher; she has a deep love for her church. She also loves to sing, read, sew, and spend time with her family. Misty was inspired to major in nursing because of the flexible hours and stable pay; her status as a single mother also played a role. She also already has lots of experience as she has been an LPN for six years. As she continued her journey in clinicals, she discovered her love for helping people and knew that she was in the perfect job. Misty is very excited to finally be getting her BSN at UNCP. As she said, "At 18 years old I knew I wanted to attend UNCP. It was the only college I applied to while still in high school. Due to life choices and health, I let this dream slip through my fingers. December 11th will be a dream come true! Thank God!" Misty's message to other students is: "Fight for your degree. You need to take charge of your education. Professors and others are there to guide us but it's your degree and you need to work for it. Remember this is your education and Robeson County is not the only place in this world. Most of all serve Jesus and let him guide your steps and words."

Profiled by Brooke Blackmon

Zachary Jortson-Busch

History
High Point

Shareka D. Graham-Ayers

Social Work
Fairmont

Takoda R. Hammonds

Sociology
Gibsonville

Faith Elizabeth Harrison

Theatre
High Point

Kyle Anthony Incardona

Art
Salisbury

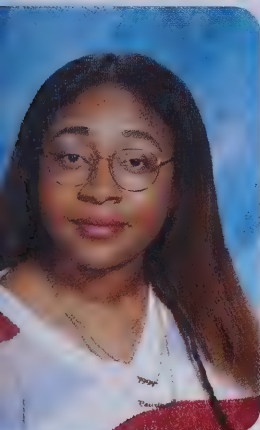
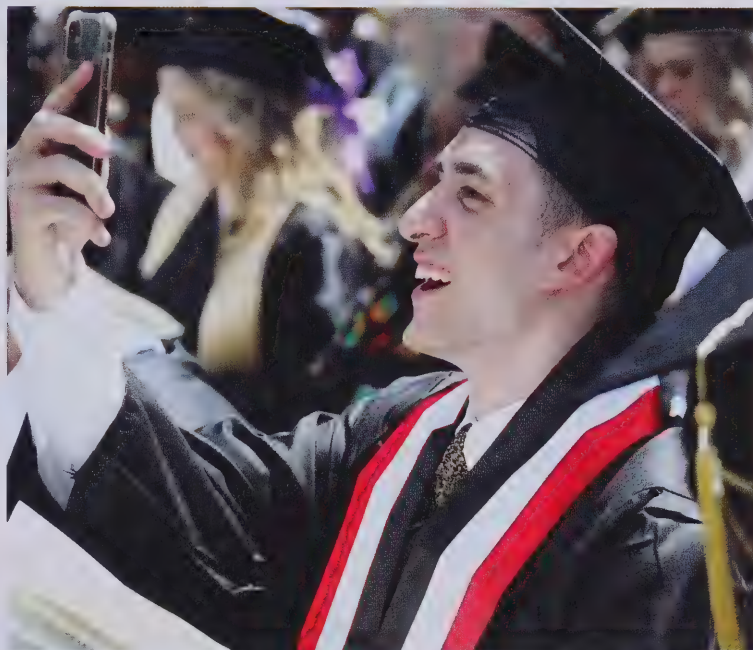
Tyra Jerald

Psychology
Lumberton





2021-2022 SENIORS



Courtney Michelle Johnson

Social Work
Parkton

Marley Neal Lane

Accounting
Bladenboro

Mashiaq Ada'Ure Little

Elementary Education
Charlotte



Anika Faith Locklear

Psychology
Pembroke

Elizabeth Ann Locklear

Elementary Education
Pembroke

Mya N. Love-Whitley

Biology
Durham

Racquel P. Martin

Applied Professional Studies?
Fayetteville

Donovan DePaul McDowell

Computer Science
Maxton

Taylor Jannce Moore

Business
Lumberton

Kyle K. Nguyen

Biology
Laurinburg

Melissa Davis Ocean

Criminal Justice
Rowland

Deana Marie Oxendine

Elementary Education
Pembroke



2021-2022
SENIORS



Alexandria Cara Price

History
Hubert



Ebony Lakita Renfrow

Business
Hope Mills



Sabrina Sanderson-Floyd

General Studies
Lumberton



Lindsay Paige Scott

Psychology
Hope Mills



Cori-Jane Almazan Shelton

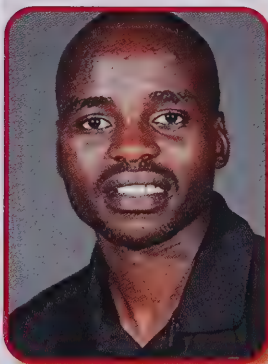
Psychology
Fayetteville



Joseph Lawrence Snyder

Nursing
Garner

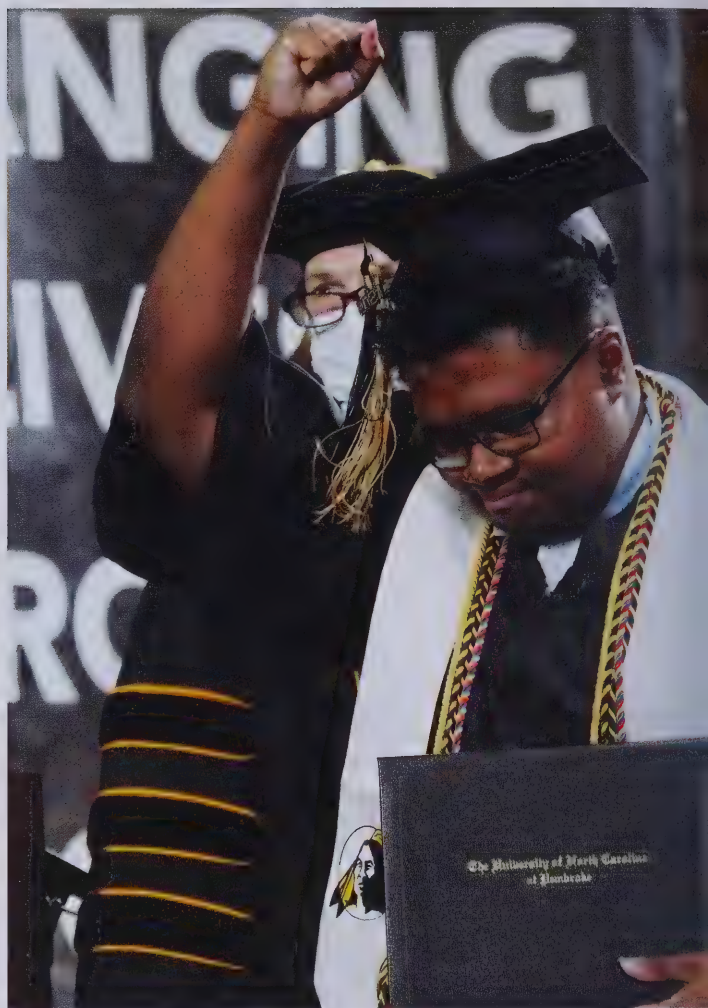
Joshua Chepkesir



Joshua Chepkesir, also known as "Josh," was a senior majoring in computer science and a member of the track and cross-country teams. His hometown is Eldoret, Kenya. Some of his favorite hobbies when he is not doing school assignments and extracurricular activities are playing football and playing the guitar. Joshua said some people that will continue to be significant in his life are his coaches and teammates. Among his many achievements as a UNCP athlete, he has been named the Peach Belt Conference Men's champion multiple times. He set a meet record in November of 2019 at Luther Brit Park in Lumberton. He also has been named Freshman Track Athlete of the Year, Southeast Region Athlete of

2018-19, Mountain East Conference Champion of 2019-20, NCAA Southeast Region Champion of 2019-20. He placed 8th at the NCAA National Championship to earn All-American status in 2019-20. He set a new meet and course record at the PBC Championships in 2020-21. Joshua said, "It feels very good to be a senior and I am very excited about it." Joshua said after graduating he will continue on to graduate school. Joshua said that Covid-19 has really affected his face-to-face classes and his training for track/cross-country. Joshua said that what has really changed since he had begun his career at UNCP is the different foods and climates over the years. Joshua said, "What I will miss from UNCP is my professors and training for track and field." Advice that he gives to entering freshman is "Work hard and focus."

2021-2022 SENIORS



Rebekkah Naomi Stanley

Criminal Justice
Ruffin

Wendy L. Tello Sanchez

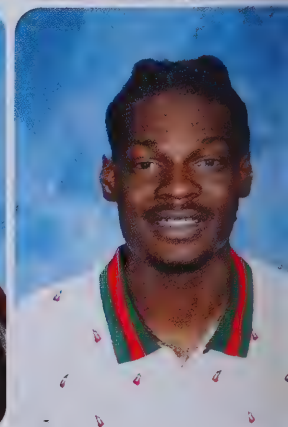
Business
Parkton

Chandolyn Layne Todd

Psychology
Bladenboro

Chauncey Tolliver

Sociology
Fayetteville



Rebekah Huey



Rebekah Lynn Huey is a senior elementary education major from the small town of Marshal, NC, in Madison County, and an RA (resident advisor) on campus. Rebekah loves staying in Pine Hall, even though her job comes with some difficulties such as enforcing the mask mandate and visitation policies. She said that the most surprising thing about her years here at UNCP was being able to attend class face-to-face while so many schools were being forced to send students home due to the pandemic. Rebekah has met many people at UNCP and says that meeting "people of different ethnicities and races has changed my perspective of the

world for the better; Madison County lacked different perspectives. My hometown didn't allow me to see how the real world worked." Outside of school Rebekah is an active member of the Alpha Sigma Alpha sorority, and she also was a part of the spirit squad for one semester but left to focus on her studies. Reading is her favorite hobby. Rebekah's favorite professor at UNCP is Dr. Kelly Ficklin, who was always willing to answer calls early morning with the same enthusiasm she has during the day. Rebekah looks up to her and is using Dr. Ficklin as her role model for the elementary school teacher she wants to be. Rebekah chose UNCP because of the hometown experience and feel, which makes her feel like she's not just a number; individuality is very special to her. The staff always have her back and want her to succeed and will put in the extra work to get her where she wants to go in life. After college she plans to move to Pennsylvania or Florida to teach third or fourth grade. The quote she shared in closing: "Keep going because even when it gets hard the reward will be worth it in the end."

Profiled by Tra Von Brewington



Aaron Rueben Woods

Hospitality
Pembroke



Darius Antoine Wright

Psychology
Rowland



Valerie Xiong

Social Work
Charlotte



Michelle Elizabeth Hitts

Mass Communication
Grafton, MA

2021-2022 GRAD STUDENTS

Kate Harris Graham

Reading Education
Fayetteville

Jennifer

Hammonds-Richardson

Business Administration
Roseboro

Victoria Alexis Huggins

Business Administration
Vass



2021-2022 JUNIORS

Mitchell E. Chmielewski

Michaela Leigh Tisdale



2021-2022 SOPHOMORES &



Sarina Maynor

Amanda Kaye Meares



Maria Ann Burks

Chaneta Dishea Dover

Joy Anna Fitchett

FRESHMEN

FACULTY

Irene Pittman Aiken

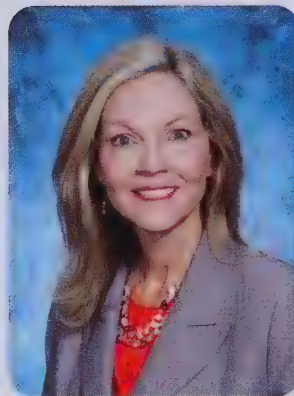
Dean, The Graduate School

Robert Arndt

Director of Reference Services, Livermore Library

Hannah Baggott

Lecturer, English



Peter Grimes

Assistant Professor and *Pembroke Magazine* Editor, English

Anita Guynn

Associate Professor, English

Laura Hakala

Assistant Professor, English



Walter Lewallen

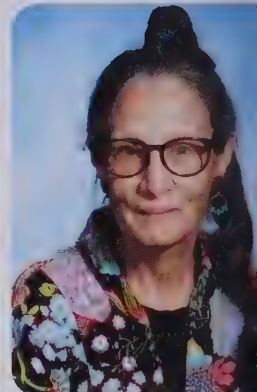
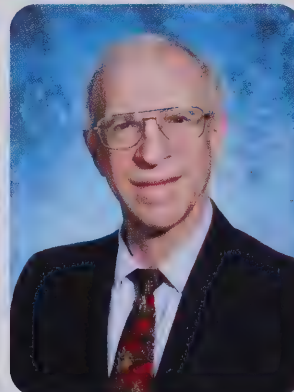
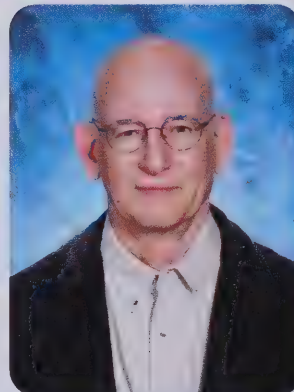
Lecturer, English

David Nikkel

Professor and Chair, Philosophy and Religion

Sara Oswald

Senior Lecturer, English/Mass Communication



As this People section comes to a close, it is notable that far fewer people have chosen to have their portraits taken for the yearbook over the past three years than used to be the case. The pandemic probably had something to do with that, but even before Covid, the yearbook staff who sat at tables in the UC or used social media to encourage their fellow students to sign up for the free portrait sittings were often rebuffed. So we'd like to thank all the students, faculty, and staff who DID take time out of their busy schedules to have their portraits included in this edition. And thanks to the folks at Thornton Studios—including "Los," pictured here in Fall 2021—for being our portrait studio over the years.



& STAFF



Pattie T. Dees

Building Environment Technician, Housekeeping

Loretta Jones

Building Environment Technician, Facilities Maintenance

Pecouse Lucas

Administrative Assistant, College Opportunity Program



Pictured above are the faculty and staff who were honored at events celebrating their retirement in Spring 2021 (above left) and in Spring 2022 (above right).



On the far left, Dr. Jamie Litty of the Mass Communication Dept. speaks with Dr. Monika Brown at the Faculty Appreciation Banquet in Spring 2022. Dr. Brown, who retired from the English Dept. in Spring 2019, and her husband, former History professor Dr. Robert Brown, were both honored with Emeritus status in Spring 2022.

On the near left, Dr. Zoe Locklear toasts the retirees in Spring 2022. Dr. Locklear also retired (again) from her position as Interim Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs at the end of the 2021-22 academic year. She had previously been a professor of education, dean, and provost in her long and distinguished career at UNCP.

Covid Spring

In May 2020, members of the *Indianhead* yearbook staff reflected on their experiences during the second half of the Spring semester, when the pandemic shifted all classes online. The lockdown prevented our staff from completing the 2020 issue in time for distribution in May—but there would have been no students on campus to pick up their yearbooks anyway.

Jaleya Squire



This academic year has been a crazy one, not only for UNCP, but for the whole world. In late February 2020, the first few cases of Covid-19 (the coronavirus) were found in the United States. It was an extremely contagious disease, with no cure, wreaking its way through the world, so the State of North Carolina issued a Shelter in Place order, and the UNCP campus was closed to keep faculty, staff, and students safe.

The transition from in-person to online classes has been tough on everyone involved. For me, between online schoolwork, my home life, and working a part-time job that was considered essential, it's been hard to prioritize my work. It has been very difficult to give 100% of my focus and time to schoolwork with everything happening around me. On campus, it was easier for me to get my work done because of spaces like the library and study rooms that were quiet, distraction-free places I could go to do my work. At home, there are distractions everywhere and no real quiet place to work.

Not only has it been hard for us as students, but it's also been hard on our professors and instructors as well, since they have had to transition all their lesson plans and activities from in-person to online. Professors spend a lot of time preparing modules and units to teach in a class setting. Preparing those same curricula for online can be also challenging. "It's been really challenging trying to make sure my students are getting the same quality from my classes that they are used to in class on an online format," said Orlando Alvarez, an English Language instructor for the Office of Global Engagement. Transitioning from in-person to online has been challenging for Alvarez and his colleagues, but not impossible. Alvarez managed to come up with a few ways to make sure he keeps his students engaged during this time. "I've opened up the first 10 minutes of my WebEx classes to asking student how they are coping with things. I also assign them to find one fun thing to do during quarantine that made their day," says Alvarez.

At UNC Pembroke, we are the Brave Nation, and during this troubling time, we've taken the Brave part of our name and applied it to our everyday lives. We are being Braves outside of the classroom and being brave at home, in online classrooms, and at essential jobs. While we can't be Braves together, we are being brave together.

Abigail Chabala



At the beginning of my freshman year at UNCP I never would have thought the second half of my spring semester would have been completed at home through online classes. I do not think anyone expected college to essentially be "canceled" for the spring 2020 semester. College campuses throughout the whole U.S. switched to online classes only. Students were told to go home and get off campus if they could. My own experiences during the second half of the semester have been crazy.

At the beginning of online courses, I was very stressed out and worried that I would not be able to make it through and succeed. The first week or so I struggled with time management and wasted time throughout the day that I could have used for doing work for classes. After having crazy amounts of stress for the first week or two, I decided to get more serious and started working harder, taking notes and listening to all the online lectures. I started to do research for anything I did not understand, and I also emailed my professors when I had questions as if I were back on campus and in face-to-face classes.

I think that having online classes made me work harder than I would have needed to for in-person courses. With online classes, I did not have the opportunity to raise my hand and ask a question like I would in class. Luckily, I had access to video chat and could use that resource to schedule meetings with my professors. I scheduled a few meetings with my English professor to discuss some of my drafted papers and I ended up earning A's on them. I believe that having access to video conferences during the online courses really helped me out. I am now ending the semester with very good grades. I did struggle at the beginning with adjusting to online courses, but towards the end I can see a lot of personal improvement.

This pandemic not only affected my college classes, but it also affected my family, my community, my friends, other students, and millions of people in America. I cannot go to the store without seeing people wear masks or gloves and staying 6 feet apart from each other. My friend lost her job as a hostess at a sit-down restaurant because of the pandemic. Both of my parents have been working from home, and they lost working hours because of it. I have not gotten to hang out with my friends like I usually would have because of this pandemic. I know that some students have been struggling with adjusting to online courses because of this pandemic. No one was expecting this pandemic to change our lives.

Jayla Coley



After finding out that students would not be returning to UNCP after Spring Break I was devastated. My sophomore year at UNCP had been enjoyable, and I was saddened to hear that it was ending abruptly. I was given a new job opportunity as a Resident Advisor. With this job opportunity, I was also able to make connections with many students around campus. These connections, in turn, allowed me to break out of my shell. Being an RA also allowed me to meet two friends that are now very close to me. We even had the idea of starting a YouTube channel which would help us to share our experiences with the world. Due to Covid-19, our plans were interrupted, and we never got the chance to edit the video and post the footage that we filmed.

During this school year, I started to become more engaged with my professors and students in my classes. I began to dive into my major courses which is something I had been looking forward to upon entering UNCP. I enjoyed my major classes and they have allowed me to gain a lot of hands-on experiences with the broadcasting field. My favorite class during this semester would have to be

Broadcast Practicum. With that course, I was able to work with Carolina News Today as a camera operator. It felt good to be a part of a production that is aired on television for Pembroke and the surrounding areas to see.

I wish COVID-19 hadn't interrupted our school year. Despite this, the pandemic was a learning lesson for many. Being in quarantine has taught me more about myself than I have ever known. Before entering quarantine, I understood that I was an avid procrastinator. Now I have become a "master procrastinator." I have learned to be proficient at completing multiple homework assignments from different classes in one day. I would never recommend this tactic, but it has taught me that some of my best work is created with the help of procrastination. With this skill, I have also learned that completing online classes at home isn't as easy as they may seem. When I am at home, I am in a relaxed environment free from worries. Then the panic sets in when I realize, at the last minute, that I have an assignment due within a few hours that I didn't even bother to look at. As stated, I don't recommend being a procrastinator. If procrastination was a Yelp Review, I would give it zero stars. Despite this, I have become appreciative of my friends at the university who were constantly pushing me to get assignments done early. I truly miss them and hope to see them in the Fall.

Being in quarantine also allowed me to gain an interest in fitness. With the help of PED 1790, I found work-out videos on YouTube that I enjoy. The videos involve dancing, which is not the normal version of exercising. Despite this, the dance moves help shed pounds, and I have been enjoying my fitness journey.

Zaria Bell



I was so excited to get a fresh new start on the Spring 2020 semester. My schedule was nice and flexible: no classes on Mondays, 3 classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1 class on Wednesdays and Fridays, and two online classes. I had no idea that my life would change drastically in such a short period of time.

Before Spring Break, I was driving home quite frequently to help take care of my sick grandmother. I live 2 1/2 hours away from campus. I would drive home Friday after class and come back Tuesday morning, spending every week in two places going back and forth on the road. I was starting to get overwhelmed with all of my responsibilities: classes, assignments, organizations, upcoming events, and taking care of my family back at home. However, I didn't mind doing it, so that is what kept my motivation intact. I was extremely excited about the upcoming events we had planned for the organization I was in called Divine Dancers. We spent many days and late nights practicing and perfecting our craft in preparation for a showcase scheduled after Spring Break.

When Spring Break 2020 came around I only packed enough items for one week, expecting to return to campus the following week. I had never heard anything about the coronavirus or Covid-19 prior to this. I was confused about how the world could go into such panic in the blink of an eye. This was a worldwide pandemic that called for stay-at-home quarantine, causing so many individuals to be out of work and so much more.

The quarantine has been both beneficial and a disadvantage for me. It has been beneficial because I am able to stay at home without the excessive driving. It taught me how to do stuff on my own without relying on the outside world and gave me the opportunity to work on self-growth and get things done I've been meaning to complete. The quarantine has been a disadvantage because all of my classes being put online was very hard to adjust to even though I had two classes online already. Most of my teachers were understanding about the situation and the sudden change. Finding a job has also been extremely difficult due to maintaining classes as well as finding people who were hiring in my hometown. Most retail stores were shut down in my area, and the companies that were still open either laid a few people off or weren't currently hiring at the moment.

Even though this worldwide pandemic has affected me and others in many ways, I am beyond thankful that I was able to be safe. My family and I were able to practice an act of philanthropy during this crisis: we made over 300 homemade face masks for the patients at the dialysis center where my grandmother goes to get treatment and for the workers at the doctor's office. My heart goes out to all the people who passed from Covid-19 and those who lost their jobs. I want to give a special thank you to the healthcare workers who put their lives in danger to save others. Thank you.

Jasmine Esperanza Molina



When second semester started, I was so excited because I would be taking one of my intro classes for my major. I was also excited because I had made my schedule a certain way so that I could go to class after ten and have time later that day to get one of my favorite subs from the Braves Place. Throughout the beginning of the semester, I always made sure to stop by and get a sub before history class, and it eventually became a must. My classes were fairly easy this semester, and I looked forward going to my 12:20 intro to criminal justice class every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.

Then, Spring Break came, and I was happy to get a break from school. I spent a lot of time with my family and went on a lot of errands. What I was not expecting was an additional week of "spring break." I would soon learn that this was because of the coronavirus that had begun to spread around. My family and I were shaken and took all the precautions that were given out by the CDC. I was confused when toilet paper began to disappear; that made no sense to me. I thought that hand sanitizer would be the first thing that would go, but

eventually that became scarce as well. My family and I were afraid to go outside because of how many people were dying because of this virus. I would go onto social media and see teenagers and adults out having a blast with no care in the world. I was angry at first because I too wanted to go out and have fun with my friends, but I knew better. I knew that if I went out, there was a chance that I would get the virus and bring it home to my family, and that was something that I would not risk.

Covid-19 definitely had a great impact on my college classes. Although I loved completing my work on my bed, I needed to be in a classroom. I found it hard to understand some materials over online classes, especially for history. I found it hard to learn by reading a chapter and having to write a discussion post about it. My history teacher was awesome and explained everything thoroughly and made it interesting, but when we switched to online classes, the class began to get harder. My math class was already partially online, so that switch did not really make a difference. My English class was somewhat the same, but I would rather have met with my professor face-to-face to talk about my paper rather than over Zoom. Luckily, I passed all my classes with A's and B's, so the transition from face-to-face to online classes did not have a negative effect on my grades.

I do miss being at UNCP physically. I find it hard trying to find a place to do my work. I have a crazy and loud family, so it's hard to find some peace and quiet to take my quizzes or tests. When I was on campus, I would go to the library or Starbucks to do my work and/or study. Due to the coronavirus, I could not do that, and I saw how it affected my tests and quiz results.

Covid-19 has had a huge impact on my life. I have been quarantined with my family ever since the lockdown started, and I am slowly going crazy. I am no social butterfly, but self-isolation is not for me—I realized that during the first two weeks of quarantine. I miss my friends, and I miss the freedom that I had while I was at college. I am ready for this to all be over, and I really hope that people are taking this seriously and are self-isolating so that life can go back to normal. I know that it is going to take a while before the virus is gone and that even after that, a lot of people are still going to be affected by the impact of Covid-19. I only hope that people listen and realize that by following the guidelines given to us, we are saving countless lives and are doing it so that being outside can be safe again.

Jordan Curtis



When most girls think about their senior year of college, they think about the week leading up to graduation. They think about what hair style they will get done, decorating their cap, making nail appointments, and shopping for the right dress and shoes. Instead, seniors were attending WebEx conferences and worrying about whether we had enough supplies to get through the quarantine.

The second half of my senior year at the University of North Carolina at Pembroke came to an abrupt stop in the middle of the semester. When we were initially told Spring Break would be extended, I was excited because that meant I would have extra time to work on the assignments I had due that following week. I spent that following week doing homework and enjoying my free time. It was not until I started seeing the number of people being hospitalized in New York City that I realized how serious Covid-19 could be. Soon after seeing that notification, I received an email from the school stating we were changing to online classes.

Online classes made school less interesting for me. It made it seem less of a priority. It took a few days before I was able to really focus because it seemed like we kept getting hit with new alerts regarding the virus and the economy. All I could think about was whether I was around someone who could have possibly had it. I was thinking about all the times I have coughed or sneezed or heard someone else cough or sneeze. I could only focus on anything pertaining to school for so long.

Towards the end of the semester I started to pick up motivation because the school announced we would still have a graduation ceremony. It made me remember that I was graduating and that this was one of the most important moments of my life. Since there was not much to do during quarantine, I stayed up late multiple nights to complete all my papers and semester projects early. Quarantine was not going to interfere with me getting my degree.

Jadon Feeley



The transition to online schooling due to Covid-19 was not an easy one for me. I live four hours away from school, which made the moving out much harder. I was on Spring Break at home when it was announced, so I was unable to get a lot of my belongings. It was also really hard to go from seeing my friends every day to only being able to text or video chat. The social distancing was especially hard because I'm a person that thrives while being around people.

Academically, I feel that some professors were unprepared for the transition. A few made their classes harder than they were during regular face-to-face class, while some were really understanding and made sure all students were able to succeed. I don't hold any grudges against anyone because it was hard to know something like this would happen.

On the matter of online classes, I spoke to my friend Lee Bartalone, who said, "I can't ask questions as often, and if I want to, I have to email them and most of the time they won't get back up with me in time for the assignment. It's caused a lot of mental strain as well because we've been thrown out of our normal schedule and are forced to create a new one."

I have enjoyed being able to see my family and friends from home more, but I really miss my Brave Family and the atmosphere we have at the school. The Braves have always been a tight knit family that stands tall in the face of adversity, and I believe these trying times are no exception. Come fall, I hope the BraveNation will be stronger than ever.

Brittany Shannon



Covid-19 has changed our student and everyday lives drastically. We went through the change from going to our regular classes everyday to all online classes, and this took a toll on us all. Students and teachers all had to adapt to this switch. Many students no longer had to get up early anymore and walk or drive to classes, which gave them time to rest and do more things that they enjoyed doing. It also gave them a chance to go be with their families during this hard time. But not everyone does a great job with online learning; some people have to have the professor in front of them, teaching, to learn most effectively. This change could have affected a lot of students grading wise, depending on how it is best for them to learn. Also, now that most students have gone back home, they might not have a silent place to focus on doing their schoolwork.

I am a commuter, and all of my classes were on campus except one. At the beginning of the semester I was pregnant and tried to get classes to fit my schedule the best; because of me being high risk, I had to go to doctor appointments a lot. As far as changing to online schooling, I liked it better than driving to school four days a week; it saved me gas, time and from getting up early. I was able to do more things at home and spend time with my family. The only thing I can complain about as a result of going all online is that I don't do well with online

classes when it comes to biology. For that subject, I need to be hands-on and sit in front of a professor. Some biology topics need to be explained in detail for me to understand them. The switch has affected my grade a little because we didn't have a textbook, so students from the class had to depend on learning ourselves from a Powerpoint.

During the expansion of spring break by a week, I had my baby boy, who was born 6 weeks premature; then the school made all classes online. This was good for me, considering my child depended on me every second of every day, even while in the NICU, because I exclusively breastfed him and pumped milk for him constantly. Also the stress of going into labor six weeks early, not knowing if my child was going to make it, affected me drastically. But luckily I had to have an emergency C-section, and everything was fine except he had to stay in the NICU for 32 days to learn many different things. The online classes gave me flexibility to do my assignments when I could. The switch allowed me to spend a lot of time with my son while in the NICU. When my county got Covid-19 cases, it was mandatory that we wore masks in the NICU, which kind of made it hard to see our son considering the mask that they provided for us almost covered our eyes, but we are grateful because it protected our son from the outside world's germs.

Our community was shaken by this pandemic because it changed our daily routine. People were taken out of work or laid off due to no work or the job not needing them anymore. My husband is an essential worker, and that made it really hard on us, considering he is exposed to germs everyday. His job could not follow the social-distancing rule, and we had a baby lying in the NICU that we would go see everyday; we could not get sick or expose any germs to him because it was life threatening. When the shutdown really went into effect, the hospital adopted stricter guidelines to visit someone in the hospital. The only people that could see their loved ones were if you were a labor and delivery patient or you had a child in the nursery/NICU. I would get screened everyday before entering the hospital.

People were also affected by the stay-at-home order. Not being able to go anywhere affects people in different ways. People need fresh air; they can't stay in the house 24-7. The police in some areas were stopping people to see where they were going, but luckily they were not doing that where I lived. Not only did I have a son in the NICU; I have a stillborn son I visit everyday at the cemetery, and no matter what anyone said, I was not letting this stay-at-home order stop me from going to those two places.

I was used to going places all the time whenever I wanted, and since the stay-at-home order I was limited to where I could go. I spent more money sitting at home than I did going out. I honestly have gotten aggravated more easily because of the requirement to stay at home. There is nowhere to go or nothing to do. Covid-19 has changed our lives and communities drastically, and we will be glad when everything goes back to normal. This pandemic is an experience we all will remember.



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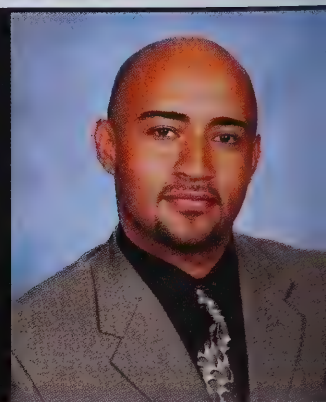
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Long, Strange Trip

This book began during the 2019-2020 academic year with *You Can Get There from Here* as its theme, embracing the idea that while UNCP may be a relatively small school in a small town—something that many of our students appreciate—it still offers a world of possibilities to its graduates. The traffic circles on Prospect Road had just been constructed that year, and those were planned to be a graphic design element in the book. Other construction was in progress, the university was growing, and those would be a focus of our coverage. The editor and staff left for Spring Break in 2020 with plans to return in a week and finish the project over the month that followed. Then—Covid happened. A new editor and staff assembled for the 2020-2021 academic year, planning to finish the previous year's book and then complete the new one. When that proved to be an unrealistic goal, especially during Covid-challenged times, we decided to combine the two years into a single book. Our theme changed to *Finding Our Way*, since that's what everyone seemed to be struggling to do in the first year of the pandemic. But many events that year had to be canceled or moved online, leaving us without photographs to capture the year's experiences, so we never did find our way to completing the book that year. By the time we got to 2021-2022, the contents had been revised multiple times, the backlog kept getting larger, and the staff got smaller. Those and other factors eventually led to this consolidated edition, covering three years in the life of UNCP in a single book.

Many people helped to finally bring this book to completion, and there's not enough space here to mention them all. Thanks go, first, to all the students who contributed to this effort: the yearbook staff who kept coming to class and doing the work, even when the end seemed never in sight; the freshmen in Ms. Oswald's Composition classes who wrote the senior profiles in the People section; and the students in her Spring 2022 Publication Design class who helped with the scoreboards in the Sports section. We thank the Mass Communication Department for its assistance, with a special shoutout to Chuck Lowery for his super tech support in the Mac Lab. We are deeply indebted to University photographer Willis Glassgow and to Todd Anderson in Athletics, who graciously gave us access to many of the photographs used in this book.

A mainstay of support over this three-year odyssey has been Shannon Spaulding, our long-time Herff Jones representative, joined in 2021 by Jaylan Staten. Always ready to offer assistance, valuable suggestions, and creative solutions, Shannon and Jaylan also provided the motivation we needed to stick with the project, even when things seemed impossible. The Covid-related materials provided by Herff Jones were a big help, too, when we needed it most.

Finally, thanks are due to Jordan Curtis and Jayla Coley, the two ladies who took on the editorship in what turned out to be very challenging times. Jordan created the original concept for the book, but the Covid shutdown prevented her from seeing it to completion before she graduated. Jayla then stepped up to carry on the task, redesigning the cover and working hard to increase interest in the book and generate new contacts and content. Although neither editor was able to see "her" book in print by the end of her tenure, the issue that eventually did get produced would not have been possible without their efforts.

In the end, we did find our way to completing this book. We did get there from here, even though "there" turned out to be a different place than we intended, and the "here" we started from, pre-Covid, will never come again. We hope you have enjoyed the trip.

Pictured top to bottom: Yearbook staff member Brittany Shannon holds her infant son who was born in March 2020, a happy event during a dark time. Dr. Lisa Lewis Schaeffer, who supported the yearbook over the years in her many roles in Student Affairs before retiring as Vice Chancellor in 2021, receives an award from Chancellor Cummings. Jaylan Staten and Shannon Spaulding have been our Herff Jones heroes during the production of this book.

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